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Report of the Executive Board of the United Nations Children's Fund on the work of its first regular session of 2001

(22-24 and 26 January 2001)*

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I. Organization of the session

A. Opening of the session

1. Prior to the election of the officers of the Executive Board for 2001, the outgoing President (Bangladesh) addressed the meeting. He spoke about the role and work of the Board during the past year, stressing the importance of ensuring the full participation of all Board members for informed decision-making. He acknowledged the support of the Executive Director and the Secretary of the Board and their teams, and thanked the members of the Bureau for their consistent and exemplary contribution to the work of the Board. He stressed the importance of programme delivery, and he commended UNICEF staff for their courage, compassion, dedication and determination. In that connection, he urged that every effort be made to address their concerns, utilize their talents to the fullest and keep their morale high.

Election of officers for 2001

2. Following the election of the new President (Armenia), he proceeded with the election of the remaining members of the Bureau (see annex II, decision 2001/1, for the composition of the Bureau).

Statements by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director

3. In his opening remarks, the President asked delegations to bear in mind during the deliberations the important and substantive thematic linkages between many of the upcoming events, in particular the meeting of the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session on Children, to be held the week of 29 January; the Special Session itself; the conference on racism; and sessions of the General Assembly on HIV/AIDS, small arms control and human settlements. In addition, he mentioned the Global Movement for Children, which aimed to galvanize all protagonists for children, especially young children themselves, who shared a common vision that all children had equal rights to grow up healthy, in peace and with dignity. He outlined the work ahead, adding that with the support of the Bureau, and the positive and constructive spirit of Board members and other participants, he looked forward to a productive and purposeful outcome throughout the year.

4. The Executive Director expressed her appreciation to the outgoing Board President for his wise leadership, and welcomed his successor as UNICEF embarked on the final months of preparation for the Special Session on Children. She spoke about recent reminders of the urgency of the UNICEF mission, especially in humanitarian emergencies, and raised the subject of staff security. The growing number of deliberate attacks on United Nations staff and other humanitarian workers called for decisive action by the international community, not only to see to it that host countries ensured the security of humanitarian workers, but also to provide additional resources to ensure better training, communications and equipment. The Executive Director provided a brief overview of the work ahead for the Board at the present session, as well as in the eight months that remained before the Special Session. She paid tribute to UNICEF staff member Matthew Girvin, who, along with three other United Nations staffers and five others, were killed in a helicopter accident during a humanitarian relief mission in northern Mongolia. His tragic death, she said, was a terrible loss for UNICEF and those it served, but she knew

that he and his colleagues "would have wanted us to forge onward. And so I can think of no better way to honour their memory than for all of us to rededicate ourselves to the cause for which they gave their lives". (See E/ICEF/2001/CRP.1 for the full text of her statement.)

Election of Executive Board representatives to the WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA Coordinating Committee on Health and to the UNESCO/UNICEF Joint Committee on Education

5. The President continued with the election of Executive Board representatives to the joint committees for the 2001-2002 biennium (see annex II, decision 2001/2, for the members elected to the joint committees).

B. Adoption of the agenda

6. The agenda, timetable and organization of work of the session, as contained in documents E/ICEF/2001/2 and Corr.1, was adopted. The agenda contained the following items:

Item 1: Opening of the session:

(a) Election of the officers of the Executive Board for 2001

(b) Statements by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director

(c) Election of Executive Board representatives to the WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA Coordinating Committee on Health and to the UNESCO/UNICEF Joint Committee on Education

Item 2: Adoption of the provisional agenda and timetable and organization of work

Item 3: Report of the Executive Director (Part I): Annual report to the Economic and Social Council

Item 4: Country notes

Item 5: Pledging event

Item 6: Private Sector Division (PSD) work plan and proposed budget for 2001

Item 7: Update on the preparatory process for the General Assembly Special Session on Children in 2001: oral report

Item 8: Establishment of an operational reserve

Item 9: Financial matters:

(a) UNICEF financial report and statements for the biennium ended 31 December 1999 and report of the Board of Auditors

(b) Report to the United Nations Board of Auditors and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

Item 10: UNICEF Maurice Pate Award

Item 11: Other matters

Item 12: Closing remarks by the Executive Director and the President of the Executive Board

Item 13: Joint meeting of the Executive Boards of UNICEF and UNDP/ UNFPA and WFP

7. In accordance with rule 50.2 and the annex of the rules of procedure, the Secretary of the Executive Board announced that 71 observer delegations had submitted credentials for the session. In addition, two United Nations bodies, two specialized agencies, two intergovernmental organizations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies had also submitted credentials.

II. Deliberations of the Executive Board

A. Report of the Executive Director (Part I): Annual report to the Economic and Social Council

8. In introducing the report of the Executive Director to the Economic and Social Council (E/ICEF/2001/4 (Part I)), the Director, Office of United Nations Affairs and External Relations, addressed issues arising from decisions and discussions at the July 2000 session of the Council, and the follow-up undertaken by UNICEF. He stated that the report followed a common format used by UNDP, UNFPA and WFP, and was structured so that issues were addressed in terms of status, problems, lessons learned and recommendations for action. This report, and those of the other United Nations Development Group (UNDG) Executive Committee members, would once again serve as input to the consolidated issues paper the UNDG prepared for the Council.

9. The report also dealt with the coordinated follow-up to conferences, as well as with the specific "plus-five" meetings of the past year, including the World Education Forum in Dakar, the World Summit for Social Development + 5, the International Conference on Population and Development + 5, and the Fourth World Conference on Women + 5. The section on humanitarian and disaster relief assistance provided an overview of UNICEF activities in the humanitarian area, as related to issues of inter-agency collaboration.

10. Under this agenda item, the Board also had before it a note on the UNICEF response to reports of the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) (E/ICEF/2001/5). The Director stated that over the last six months, UNICEF had had extensive discussions with JIU to establish a more systematic mechanism for follow-up, and to report on how JIU recommendations and observations had been incorporated into the work and operations of UNICEF. The draft decision included in the note had been prepared following consultation with JIU.

11. The Director provided an information note on the Millennium Summit and Assembly, which highlighted the references to issues of direct relevance to UNICEF. He drew delegations' attention to the fact that, particularly in the Summit and the Millennium Assembly statements, considerable attention was paid to children's

issues and child rights. The Millennium Declaration called for significant action with respect to children.

12. A number of delegations commended the secretariat on the content, format and structure of the report, calling it concise and comprehensive. Some delegations made recommendations for future reports, including requesting additional information on capacity-building, gender mainstreaming in programmes and a greater focus on lessons learned. Welcoming the note on JIU reports, a few delegations recommended that future sessions of the Executive Board allocate sufficient time for an in-depth discussion.

13. Some delegations expressed their concern about staff security, with one stating that perpetrators should be brought to justice. Many speakers encouraged Governments to contribute to the cost of ensuring staff security.

14. UNICEF efforts in the Girls' Education Initiative of the Secretary-General were highly commended by a number of delegations. Some of them stressed the need for a clear division of labour between UNICEF and UNESCO on the Initiative, as well as in follow-up to the World Education Forum in Dakar. Regarding follow-up to international conferences, many delegations commended the work being done on both global and national levels, and encouraged UNICEF to continue to give follow-up high priority.

15. Strong support was shown for the Common Country Assessment/United Nations Development Assistance Framework (CCA/UNDAF) process. Many delegations encouraged greater cooperation with the Bretton Woods institutions, in particular with regard to the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs). A request was made that the report of the Executive Director in 2002 include an analysis of the results and evaluation of the CCAs/UNDAFs. One delegation asked if UNICEF had found the process valuable, while another stressed the importance of bringing Governments fully into the process.

16. A number of delegations expressed concern about the decline in core resources and the impact this decline would have on programmes. One delegation commended UNICEF fund-raising activities.

17. Many delegations commented on the low number of resident coordinators from agencies other than UNDP. They noted, however, the improved cooperation at the country level and the harmonized administrative guidelines being used by UNDG members. The role of UNICEF in humanitarian and disaster relief was commended by a number of Governments. One delegation cautioned, however, that the organization should not lose its focus on poverty and the impact on children.

18. A number of delegations noted their intention to participate fully in the second substantive session of the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session on Children. One delegation expressed his appreciation for the information note on the Millennium Summit and Assembly, and was pleased that the important goals contained in the Declaration were not being ignored.

19. Responding to the interventions, the Director stated that comments and suggestions for improvements would be included in the report of the Executive Director in 2002. Concerning the CCA/UNDAF and programming processes, he reported that 20 CCAs/UNDAFs had been completed, with several others nearing completion. Guidelines — including sector-specific guidelines — had been

established, programme cycles had been harmonized and joint programmes were ongoing. Within the context of the triennial comprehensive policy review, there would be an external evaluation of the impact of the UNDAF. Questionnaires had been sent to all programme and donor country Governments, country teams and United Nations agencies. The outcome would serve to focus much of UNICEF work for the next three years.

20. The Director informed the Board that the UNDG had been expanded to include WHO and UNESCO. He emphasized that there was good collaboration at the country level among all stakeholders — Governments, the United Nations system, the Bretton Woods institutions, bilateral organizations and civil society. To a certain extent, this had long been the case; the challenge now was to draw on the best experiences and apply them more widely.

21. The Director stated that follow-up to international conferences was a very important aspect of the work of UNICEF and the rest of the United Nations system. The goals and targets of these conferences had given the United Nations an overall framework and context, and had made it possible to create the CCA/UNDAF mechanism. Although there was talk of "conference fatigue", there remained new issues, such as HIV/AIDS, that had not been adequately addressed. He noted that cooperation with the World Bank has been good and that the Bank was a signatory to 10 of 20 UNDAFs. UNICEF country offices had been instructed to participate actively in PRSPs.

22. The Executive Director added that discussions had been held with the UNDG regarding PRSPs, and a new working group would comprise members from the UNDG and the World Bank. She stated that the selection of resident coordinators was improving. There was now an assessment mechanism and job description, but it was still a work in progress. Although the numbers were low, there were, in fact, women resident coordinators.

23. Regarding the comment that there were too many follow-up conferences, she reminded delegations that the conferences were held in response to requests by Member States. She emphasized that humanitarian work did not detract from UNICEF work for children. There was an increasingly unstable environment world-wide in which UNICEF could play a critical role because it was in countries before, during and after crises. (See annex II, decisions 2001/3 and 2001/4, for the texts of decisions adopted by the Executive Board.)

B. Country notes

Overview

24. The Director, Programme Division, provided an overview of the 49 country notes being presented to the Board for their comments. These programmes of cooperation would be further refined following the session, particularly in terms of the sharpening of the statements of objectives and expected results, the detailing of the programme components, and the identification of indicators for assessing progress and tracking results as part of the Integrated Monitoring and Evaluation Plan. It was expected that these refinements would be evident in the country programme recommendations (CPRs) being prepared for the second regular Board session in September.

25. The country notes had been prepared in close cooperation and consultation with national partners, led by Governments, and drew on findings from the latest situation analyses of children and women and CCAs, as well as on the outcomes of mid-term reviews (MTRs), lessons learned and evaluations of the current programmes of cooperation. They represented a broad range of strategic approaches to UNICEF cooperation, and reflected and incorporated major national priorities and often the strategic goals of the United Nations system as expressed through the UNDAF, where it existed. Where introduced by national partners, the country notes aimed to show how UNICEF cooperation would specifically support sector-wide approaches (SWAPs) and sector investment programmes (SIPs).

26. The Director pointed out that many of the country notes incorporated an essentially two-pronged strategy, combining support to policy development and to service interventions and specific programmatic issues on a national scale, with a more direct focus on highly marginalized or impoverished families and communities. He also provided examples of how the overall focus on a rights-based approach to programme cooperation was reflected in the country notes.

27. Six speakers commented on the overview presentation. One delegation spoke positively about the lessons learned section in many of the country notes, and the clear development and momentum of rights-based programming and the life cycle approach. Another delegation observed a lack of information on the role of UNICEF in promoting human rights-based programming to United Nations agencies, the World Bank and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and asked about the indicators for monitoring progress in this area. The same speaker also said that none of the lessons learned in the country notes referred to the added value of a human rights-based approach, including on the change in the expected results due to the application of the approach.

28. While the general view was that consultations on country notes at the country level were seen to be moving in the right direction, one delegation expressed serious concern about the lack of reference to coordination, partnerships or the overall development assistance picture in the areas in which UNICEF was active. The speaker concluded that, without improvements in this area, his delegation might prepare a draft decision on this subject for Board at a subsequent session. Another delegation remarked that there were broad-based consultations in some countries, while not in others, and encouraged the secretariat to undertake an increased and more consistent consultative process at the country level.

29. While attaching great importance to the discussion of the country notes in the context of the multi-year funding framework (MYFF), another delegation stressed that UNICEF should be operating within the overall development framework of programme countries, as well as within the framework of its development partners, and cited, as examples, the Comprehensive Development Framework (CDF), the PRSPs and SWAPs. The delegation stressed that cooperation should be undertaken in an efficient manner and should be part of the core UNICEF activities to reduce the burden on UNICEF country teams. The speaker also stated that adherence in the field to SWAP guidelines was inconsistent, and suggested that UNICEF remind its country offices of the SWAP directives.

30. A speaker said that it was difficult to understand how a proposed programme would be monitored and evaluated for impact, particularly in cases where a non-project assistance approach was proposed. In such cases, the country note should

include a description of the proposed impact, the specific results to be achieved, and a monitoring and evaluation plan. The same would hold true, the speaker continued, for other programmes as well.

31. The same speaker expressed concern that advocacy, as the primary UNICEF strategy, was being overstressed in programmes. This was particularly critical in technical areas in which UNICEF had been a direct player and had a comparative advantage, such as immunization programmes, AIDS, and especially AIDS orphans and maternal health. It was hoped that this concern would be specifically addressed in the CPRs.

32. A number of speakers commented that the situation of disabled children, sexually exploited children and children in conflict with the law received inadequate attention in the country notes, adding that special protection measures should be provided for them. It was also suggested that special protection should be incorporated in early childhood development (ECD), education, health and HIV/AIDS activities right through the life cycle. The same delegation remarked that the country notes did not refer to the Concluding Remarks from the United Nations Committee on Rights of the Child, and that analyses in the country notes had focused more on the problems to be solved that on the strengths. While acknowledging that promotion of the participation of children was a challenge, UNICEF was urged to develop appropriate modalities and document good practices.

33. A question was raised about the progress made in the UNDG on the issue of the harmonization/rationalization of programmes. UNICEF was to ensure Board involvement at an early stage.

34. In responding to some of the comments made by delegations, the Director, Programme Division, said that the issue of partnerships was very important and that the Board could be assured that clear guidance had been provided to field offices. He said that the CPRs would reflect the impact of country programmes and the results achieved, as well as provide additional information on the situation of children in need of special protection, where possible. All the comments would be shared with country offices before the preparation of the CPRs.

Eastern and Southern Africa

35. The Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa introduced the country notes for Eritrea, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia (E/ICEF/2001/P/L.1-E/ICEF/2001/P/L.9, respectively), reporting on common characteristics of all or most of the programmes. Among other things, this was the first round of new country programmes after the adoption in the region of a human rights-based approach to programming; HIV/AIDS had been adopted as a top priority; gender aspects had been mainstreamed in all the new programmes; the weakness of the "lessons learned" part of the country note had led to a strengthening of the evaluation capacity in the region; many of the countries were involved in the development of SWAPs and SIPs; and all nine country programmes had been prepared within the framework of CCA/UNDAF processes.

36. Appreciation was expressed for the manner in which clear strategies for district, regional and national levels to better ensure a positive link between community-based interventions and national programmes had been developed in the

Eritrea country note, and for the intended focus on community capacity development. The focus and goals of the programme were also deemed to be relevant. The mainstreaming of emergency, gender and HIV/AIDS issues in each programme component was also welcomed. However, a delegation remarked that the country noted lacked an analysis of achievements and constraints to improving the situation of the targeted group. Improvement was noted in the area of SWAPs, as well as in rights-based programming, and the increased focus on immunization was supported.

37. Since most of the emergency needs in the country were related to war-displaced populations, including large numbers of women and children, one delegation asked if the proposed programme would include a strategy to deal with this situation, particularly with respect to ECD, basic education and child protection issues. In that connection, a speaker added that the mass displacement of civilian populations had undermined efforts to improve the social infrastructure. Children traumatized by the recent war were going to require more attention. The same speaker said that inter-agency cooperation between UNICEF, the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and other United Nations agencies had helped to support the efforts of the Government and local communities to contain the emergency situations that prevailed in certain parts of the country. The flexibility adopted by UNICEF to meet renewed demands by adapting ongoing programmes was commended. Another speaker noted the lack of analysis of the problems associated with the demobilization of soldiers, and how it could affect the health of women and the spread of HIV/AIDS.

38. Several delegations remarked that the country note failed to mention the substantial HIV/AIDS programme. Of concern was how UNICEF would rationalize its interventions with those of the World Bank and other donors. Another clarification was sought about the relationship between the government HIV/AIDS programme and UNICEF-supported activities in this area. The Regional Director assured delegations that the proposed HIV/AIDS programme was fully integrated with that of the Government, and that it had been prepared within the national plan and in collaboration with the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS).

39. One delegation was particularly appreciative of how the Eritrea country note had brought forward the challenges of girls, who were at greater risk of HIV/AIDS infection, sexual exploitation, and health complications due to early childbirth and some harmful traditional practices. Efforts to develop gender sensitive strategies were welcomed. It was felt that this was an example to be followed in other country programmes.

40. Several delegations felt that the Ethiopia country note was an appropriate response to the development challenges and was within the UNICEF mandate. However, one speaker expressed the view that the document did not adequately address the poverty issue, particularly the problem of chronic food insecurity. Dialogue with the Government and other key partners was required to address policies that were linked to the many dimensions of poverty. One the other hand, another speaker welcomed the formulation of the country programme, which appeared to be based on the government poverty reduction strategy and UNDAF.

41. Another delegation was pleased to note that the programme addressed the issue of sustainability. This was essential in view of the decrease in the flow of funds to

some key services such as immunization. The country note was cited by one delegation for its reflection of both the opportunities and challenges of community-based approaches. UNICEF had a rich experience in such interventions, and this knowledge should feed into national policy and strategy development for sustainability and replication.

42. According to one speaker, the health programme was well-coordinated with those of most other donors. There was, however, a lack of emphasis on the very important area of maternal health. Since most donors were not addressing this area, there was a large gap between the need and the available resources. The delegation urged UNICEF, as the lead agency promoting the well-being of mothers, to include a focus on this area in the country programme.

43. While a delegation felt that the country note had been prepared following broad consultations with partners, further information was sought on the issues that would be addressed by the child protection programmes. The analysis mentioned several categories, but the specific responses were lacking. Additional information was requested on how the monitoring of child rights would be carried out and promoted with the Human Rights Commission and ombudsman structures. In addition, the secretariat was asked to explain the kinds of differences a right-based approach was making in the way UNICEF was planning and carrying out programmes in Ethiopia. A speaker voiced concern that the country note made no mention of internally displaced persons (IDPs) or war-affected children, whose situation would remain a problem that the international community, including UNICEF, would have to address over the next few years. In that context, it was felt that capacity-building in the country programme should be strengthened. Additional information was sought on the precise approaches to be followed in the area of HIV/AIDS, especially for children orphaned by AIDS. The Regional Director reassured delegations that UNICEF planned to increase its focus on IDPs.

44. The country delegation spoke about the long, good relationship between the Government and UNICEF. Emphasis on the health programme had positively impacted other areas. The country programme, with its focus on gender equity, education, especially girls' education, and poverty reduction, were also national priorities.

45. In the *Lesotho* country note, the focus on poverty reduction through four programmes, all of which contained elements to combat HIV/AIDS and fight violence against women, was commended. The delegation felt that in a country where 25 per cent of the population were sero-positive and 15 per cent of children had lost one of their parents, the proposed programme had the appropriate objectives and conformed to the priorities of the country.

46. Another delegation felt that the country note did not adequately reflect the positive reforms now being implemented in the country, which included privatization through the government's poverty alleviation strategies, the Lesotho community development fund, and health and education reforms. A question was raised about whether the provision of technical support would incorporate child rights into policies and programmes.

47. One delegation commented on the size of the programme budget and the breadth of programming across four or five sectors, as reflected in the Malawi country note. It was felt that UNICEF might be spreading itself too thinly.

Experience had shown that in a country like Malawi, better results would be achieved by focusing more intense efforts in fewer areas. In addressing the concern of some delegations about the capacity of Malawi to implement community-based activities, a speaker expressed confidence that the necessary capacity was available. The Regional Director concurred that there were many programme areas, adding that the programme had been developed based on Government priorities and that it was an improvement over the current programme. This situation was a result of trying to balance the needs, the capacity and the willingness of certain ministries to move forward.

48. The approach to HIV/AIDS was seen as appropriate, and, overall, the results of the evaluation carried out in 2000 were positive. UNICEF was urged to place more emphasis on priority areas. Several speakers addressed the goal of reducing infant and child mortality by 25 per cent and mother-to-child transmission (MTCT) of HIV/AIDS by 50 per cent. This seemed quite ambitious in view of the AIDS pandemic, and one delegation questioned whether those targets were realistic.

49. Coordination with other donors and links with the government's major policy instruments, specifically national health plan and education policy investment frameworks, were questioned. UNICEF was encouraged to be more active in donor coordination and to participate in PRSPs. A delegation welcomed the very good section in the country note on UNDAF and SWAP experiences, which was also reflected in the strategy. In that connection, a question was raised about the priorities mentioned in the country and those of the Government in SWAPs.

50. While agreeing with the assessment of the overall situation in Mozambique and endorsing the proposed country strategy, especially the emphasis on HIV/AIDS, one delegation expressed some reservations about the accuracy of some of the figures, in particular in the health and water and sanitation sectors. However, the speaker was pleased to note that the new water and sanitation programme was conceptually updated and an improvement over the previous programme in terms of its integrated and demand-driven approach. On the other hand, more attention could have been given to the cholera problem. The delegation regretted that UNICEF was not more closely involved in SWAPs in the country. The delegation went on to state that UNICEF had missed the opportunity for capacity-building by doing too much itself during the floods.

51. One delegation asked if any of the proposed allocations would be used to help rebuild the educational infrastructure destroyed by last year's floods as it was clearly a need based on the assessment. Another delegation wondered why UNICEF did not take a more proactive role in the rights-based approach for education. Efforts to mobilize communities around education for out-of-school youth and children, with a focus on HIV/AIDS, were welcomed.

52. The emphasis on child protection and the development of innovative projects in the area were commended by a speaker. Support to the areas of policy development, legislation and operational standards was also appreciated. However, his Government regretted the lack of a specific mention of children with disabilities in the country note.

53. A question was raised about the proposed programme strategy using the Integrated Management of Childhood Illness (IMCI) to expand the use of impregnated bednets for malaria control, and whether Mozambique had an

established IMCI programme that could be used for this expansion. The Regional Director assured delegations that the malaria programme would use the IMCI programme in promoting the use of bednets.

54. One delegation stated that it took its position on MTCT on a country-by country basis. In Mozambique, UNICEF considered the prevention of MTCT a right and a high priority within the its programme. The delegation was of the opinion that Mozambique was at a very nascent stage of implementation and that MTCT was not its first priority. UNICEF was encouraged to consult more fully with its partners before finalizing its interventions in this area. In reply, the Regional Director said that UNICEF had the obligation to promote the prioritization of MTCT in Mozambique not only because it concerned HIV/AIDS, but also because it affected children.

55. A number of delegations welcomed the priority given to HIV/AIDS in the *Namibia* country note, which corresponded to the UNDAF process in the country. Given the scale of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, however, it was felt that the target of a 25 per cent reduction was too modest. The youth health programme was cited as being particularly relevant. One delegation asked if Education for All, including for girls and children with special needs, was a priority since it was not reflected in the country note. The delegation also wondered how the Concluding Observations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child were taken into account since they were made in 1994.

56. UNICEF work in *South Africa* was viewed as strategic and pertinent. It fully incorporated government programmes and served as a good example for the region. A speaker commented on the good collaboration, especially in the area of HIV/ AIDS. On the other hand, another delegation felt that the integration of HIV/AIDS activities with other programmes was unclear.

57. Another delegation raised a question about the importance of nutrition/ micronutrients in the country programme since it was not mentioned in the country note. It was hoped that this was an oversight and that it would be included in the CPR.

58. The increased role of the private sector in development activities was considered unique by a speaker, who expressed the hope that UNICEF would take advantage of this and other partnerships. This was an area that should be monitored closely for possible replication. Although pleased to note the importance of the UNDAF and MTR processes in programme development, a delegation would have liked to have seen a short description of the division of labour and the planned partnerships. Advocacy activities were commended, especially those in support of youth and juvenile justice.

59. Several delegations agreed with the analysis of the situation as presented in the country note for the *United Republic of Tanzania*, especially in the areas of HIV/ AIDS and community-centred capacity development. However, one delegation felt that the proposed HIV/AIDS programme could have been featured more prominently in the country note. It was hoped that more details would be included in the CPR. The country note also lacked evidence of sufficient support to AIDS orphans. The Regional Director said that UNICEF had developed a good HIV/AIDS programme, which included AIDS orphans. It would be funded from other resources, and several donors had expressed an interest.

60. While welcoming the more holistic approach to the child, one delegation was of the opinion that this was not adequately reflected in the country note. Another speaker felt that UNICEF should make use of the collective knowledge of donors and the various planning instruments, such as the PRSP. Mention was also made of the fact that UNICEF did not seem to be fully engaged in the SWAP process. In response, the Regional Director said that UNICEF was very much involved in the PRSP process in the United Republic of Tanzania, perhaps more so than in many other countries.

61. A delegation noted the imbalance between regular and other resources, and suggested that this required further discussions by the Executive Board. On the other hand, the same speaker expressed confidence that the necessary national resources for strengthening capacities at different levels to realize child rights would be found.

62. The situation analysis as described in the *Zambia* country note was welcomed by a speaker, who also noted the relevance of the programme strategy. Another delegation supported the overall focus of the proposed country programme that would address HIV/AIDS, malaria, orphans and vulnerable children. The delegation expressed the hope that the CPR would specifically address continued support for child health activities, including the provision of vitamin A, immunization and other basic services; support for expanding tetanus toxoid for pregnant women and adolescent girls; and support to orphans. In addition, UNICEF work in health reform was appreciated.

63. Another delegation welcomed the work to be carried out in the country programme, but wanted to see more specific references to the issues of empowerment, the conflict perspective, child participation and children with disabilities. The same delegation qyesti8oned why only 8 per cent of the total budget was to be allocated to child protection. Emphasis on the participation of parents, families and communities in the management of educational services, as well as the work within the sub-sector investment programme, was commended. Regarding cross-cutting issues, the delegation asked why youth issues were not considered cross-cutting, when the Government of Zambia mentioned the young child as a cross-cutting issue.

64. A question was raised about any policy advocacy being done at the national level in relation to encouraging the implementation of an effective decentralization policy. This was important for UNICEF since so many of its programmes are implemented at the district level. A delegation also wanted to know whether UNICEF planned any national budget monitoring exercises similar those done undertaken in other countries.

65. The Regional Director thanked the delegations for their substantive comment and reminded them of the serious constraints encountered in trying to describe the country context, detailed lessons learned, information on partnerships and collaboration, and UNICEF involvement in SWAPs, SIPs, UNDAF and PRSPs all in four pages. In view of the fact that some of the questions seemed to have come from the embassies of the Board members in the countries concerned, he suggested that the local UNICEF country offices would be able to provide more detailed responses. He agreed to meet with delegations bilaterally to further respond to their concerns.

66. In response to the concerns raised about SWAPs, the Regional Office and the Regional Management Team had established a working group to try to find a more constructive and efficient role in SWAPs and SIPs.

67. In all of the country programmes, HIV/AIDS, malaria, emergency assistance, immunization, education, nutrition and child protection received — and would continue to receive — UNICEF support or cooperation. Although it would vary from country to country, UNICEF priorities were clear and would be discussed with its partners within the United Nations system as well as with its bilateral partners.

West and Central Africa

68. The Regional Director for West and Central Africa introduced the country notes for the Central African Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, the Gambia, Guinea, Nigeria, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal and Togo (E/ICEF/2001/P/L.10-E/ICEF/2001/P/L.18, respectively). The nine countries presenting country notes were classified among the bottom 30 on the Human Development Index. She outlined such other challenges as armed conflict and displaced populations. The process of identifying programme strategies had drawn on lessons learned from the 1997-2001 programmes of cooperation, as well as on the results of a multisectoral approach, which reinforced the capacity of communities and local authorities in planning, participation, management of interventions and training. Preparation of the programmes had been coordinated by Governments, with United Nations agencies, bilateral and multilateral agencies, and NGOs actively participating in the review of strategies. National development plans, the UNICEF medium-term plan and the three outcomes of the new Global Agenda for Children helped to guide the preparation of the country notes. The Regional Director said that all of the country notes highlighted three strategies that would be used to ensure national coverage: advocacy; reinforcement of national capacity; and service delivery. In concluding, she highlighted the important work being carried out at regional and country levels in promoting participation to ensure children's and women's rights. This was being achieved in collaboration with African States, regional organizations such as the Organization for African Unity, other development partners, NGOs, youth, women ministers, First Ladies and parliamentarians.

69. Commenting on the country note for *Equatorial Guinea*, one delegation noted with regret that even after a national economic conference, there was still no plan for a more equitable distribution of resources. His Government regretted that the initial programme to radically improve the situation with respect to the rights of children and women had not been successful. The speaker emphasized that UNICEF could play an important role in facilitating dialogue and partnerships among all actors in order to implement the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, in particular the harmonization of national laws in these areas. The delegation encouraged more concrete action on behalf of children and continued support to decentralization.

70. Regarding the country note for *Gabon*, one delegation noted that the mechanisms for social protection were not as strong as they had been a few years earlier. However, the speaker said that approval of the proposed country programme strategy would allow for the extension of activities already in place to protect

children and women in the context of growing poverty. There was also a need to build national capacity for more active social policy.

71. One delegation commented on the country note for the *Gambia* and noted the commitment of the Government to ensure the survival, development and protection of children. The delegation was encouraged that the Government had signed the two Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

72. In commenting on the country note for *Guinea*, a number of delegations expressed appreciation to the Government for the work being done for refugees, but felt that special attention was needed in this respect, and welcomed the appeal for additional support. It was noted that the Government had presented its report to the Committee on the Rights of the Child and had begun to elaborate a child code. These efforts and others described in the country note would have to be carried out in the context of poverty, indebtedness, the reduction in official development assistance (ODA)and the consequences of conflict. A delegation hoped that the recent attacks on border areas, which had caused displacement within the country and occurred after the finalization of the country note, would be taken into consideration during the elaboration of the CPR. With the disruption of health and educational services, the main victims were children and women. In response, the Regional Director noted the laudable support that Guinea had given to refugees and displaced persons.

73. One delegation expressed satisfaction with the quantified targets contained in the country note for *Nigeria*. She looked forward to seeing a monitoring and evaluation plan, and a description of how efforts were interconnected with those of other donors, in the CPR. She urged a more focused programme approach to ensure that specific results were achieved with the funding and staffing resources available. Her Government wished to collaborate with UNICEF in two specific areas not addressed in the country note — polio eradication and insecticide-treated bednets for malaria. She urged UNICEF to consider hiring qualified staff to work with partners at all levels to improve the quality of the polio eradication effort. She expressed concern about the 20 per cent increase in the cost of vaccines, and recommended that UNICEF expand its efforts to renegotiate the cost, help define country budgets and take steps to ensure high-quality vaccine procurement and logistics management. She felt that insecticide-treated material should be sent to institutions (hospitals and clinics) and project sites in order to avoid it ending up in the marketplace. It was felt that this would deter the private sector from investing. UNICEF should also look at alternative approaches to subsidies, such as vouchers, that would go to NGOs and others to reach the poor. Finally, the delegation addressed the role that UNICEF could play in across-the-board elimination of taxes and tariffs on materials for impregnated bednets, and requested that UNICEF ensure that policies be modified so that the vulnerable poor would benefit without placing a burden on the private sector.

74. Another delegation noted that the country note did not address the water sector. His Government had indicated a commitment to work in the area of water at the federal and state level and with other donors in Nigeria. In this context, his Government would finance an independent appraisal of UNICEF water sector activities.

75. One delegation noted that in addition to the attention paid to issues of child protection in the country note, Nigeria was also expected to host the proposed Child

Protection Unit of the Economic Commission for West Africa, which would focus on the issue regionally. Appreciation was expressed for the lead being taken by Nigeria in the subcontinent to mobilize resources to ensure the eradication of the polio virus by 2002 and certification by 2005.

76. The Regional Director thanked the delegation that pledged continued assistance for polio eradication and malaria control in Nigeria. The regional and country offices were already in contact with the Government of Nigeria regarding the issue of taxes and tariffs on materials necessary for impregnated bednets. In response to the delegation that raised concern about the water programme, the Regional Director confirmed that the new country programme for Nigeria would address this issue as part of the integrated growth and development programme.

77. One delegation noted that in *Senegal*, deficiencies in the areas of health, nutrition and education placed a large number of children at risk. Nevertheless, important steps had been taken to protect the rights of the child, notably, a new law adopted in January 2001 based on the two Conventions. The decision to create a ministerial department in charge of youth demonstrated strong political will to make the rights of the child an essential component of social development. The national programme that integrated nutrition and education at the village level was a good example of the relevance of this approach.

78. Regarding the *Togo* country note, one delegation expressed appreciation for the efforts of the Government to improve the situation of children and women, specifically the adoption of certain legislative measures. Support for the country programme needed to be increased in view of the still unsatisfactory situation in the area of health, particularly immunization rates, and in education. The delegation appealed to UNICEF to continue its support, especially at the local level. Reference was made to the establishment of community groups, under the framework of the current programme, which were particularly effective in ensuring participatory decision-making in the various regions of the country.

79. The Regional Director expressed appreciation for the constructive and relevant remarks. Regarding Equatorial Guinea and Guinea, she confirmed that UNICEF would reinforce the capacity of the Governments and communities, above all to harmonize the two Conventions with national laws. She thanked the delegations of countries that had given increasing support to child protection in the region. Delegations were informed that Nigeria and Senegal were the first countries in the region with programmes for adolescents. In closing, the Regional Director stated that although the needs were great in West and Central Africa, there were a number of opportunities that could be seized by Governments, civil society and local communities.

Americas and the Caribbean

80. The Regional Director for the Americas and Caribbean presented country notes for Belize, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay and Venezuela (E/ICEF/2001/P/L.19-E/ICEF/2001/P/L.34, respectively). He provided an overview of the dynamic and complex environment in which the 16 country notes had been developed, highlighting that a new political consensus for children's rights had emerged in the region. UNICEF continued to work on survival interventions, primarily on "unfinished business" in countries lagging in the achievement of the

World Summit for Children goals. He noted that in recent years, regional priorities had become firmly focused on primary education, as well as on child protection and the eradication of child labour. There was also growing interest in programming to benefit the physically and mentally disabled. Other interventions targeted the broader family- and community-level issues, all within a child rights approach. The Regional Director referred to the 10th Ibero-American Summit of Presidents and Heads of States, where 21 leaders declared their ongoing commitment to the fulfilment of children's rights. He stated that the 16 country notes, and the vision of cooperation they represented for the region, were challenging and would take all the talent and resources that UNICEF and its partners could mobilize.

81. Many delegations expressed their support for both the country notes and the general goals of the programmes. Several speakers concurred with the point made in a number of documents on the need to strengthen collaboration between the public and private sectors, and felt that UNICEF was well placed to facilitate improvements in this area.

82. A number of delegations welcomed the growing commitment to child rights in the region. A few of them expressed satisfaction at seeing the rights-based approach strongly reflected in the country notes of *Brazil* and *Costa Rica*, where children's rights were being mainstreamed in tandem with economic and social policy and institutional change. They also welcomed the country notes of *Colombia* and *Mexico*, which supported the creation of an environment in which children's rights would become accepted norms. In the case of *Haiti*, one delegation felt that the rights-based approach made sense in theory, but the proposed programme as described was too diffuse. The speaker urged a more focused programme in a limited number of areas, with specific indicators of progress which could be monitored over the five-year period. In reference to the country note of *Nicaragua*, one delegation requested clarification as to how the rights-based approach would promote basic services. Another delegation observed that it was not clear how the sensitive issues of domestic violence and sexual exploitation would be addressed, for example, in *Brazil*, *Colombia* and *Mexico*.

83. Concerning the issue domestic and family violence, the Regional Director noted that it was an issue that needed serious attention throughout the region. He mentioned that in 2000, UNICEF undertook a survey in 22 countries in Latin America, which showed that some 26 million children were exposed to violence in their homes. This scenario was reflected in another statistic of the region, namely, 85,000 deaths of young children every year.

84. Several delegations considered the impact of HIV/AIDS on children to be very alarming, especially in the Caribbean and Central America. They commended UNICEF for its active role as part of the UNAIDS Theme Group in *Mexico* and for the focus in the Caribbean and Central America. They noted, however, that the country notes of *Jamaica* and *Mexico* did not describe the specific activities to be undertaken to address HIV/AIDS. In the case of *Haiti*, one delegation felt that there was a need for assertive action in the areas of child protection and reproductive health. It was also suggested that there be fewer, more targeted projects.

85. In responding to the issues regarding HIV/AIDS, the Regional Director agreed that interventions needed to be stated more specifically. It was certainly one of the major challenges facing Central America and the Caribbean. He also stated that UNICEF had identified 13 countries in the region that would be targeted for a

special multi-country initiative, to be presented to the Executive Board in September, which would outline strategic actions. He welcomed the initiative of one donor delegation to support interventions for HIV/AIDS in Central America and the Caribbean, and stated that UNICEF looked forward to working closely with the delegation's programmes in the region.

86. One delegation found that attention to gender issues and primary education was too weak in the country notes of *Brazil*, *Colombia*, *Mexico* and *Nicaragua*. He stated further that in addition to UNICEF focusing on overcoming disparity in education, more emphasis needed to be given to the issue of quality and relevance of education, as well as to the social integration of the disabled. Another delegation noted that the *Nicaragua* country note did not give priority to disabled children.

87. One delegation requested an explanation of why the UNDAF process had been delayed in *Colombia*. Several other delegations emphasized the need to elaborate on how UNICEF programmes would complement and/or take advantage of United Nations reform and the CCA/UNDAF process, such as in the proposed disaster prevention and reduction of vulnerability strategy in the *Nicaragua* country note, and the proposed programme linkages to UNDAF in the *Honduras* country note. The same delegation indicated that there was little evidence of UNICEF coordination with other United Nations agencies in *Mexico*.

88. Two delegations commented on the country notes of *Brazil* and *Venezuela*, pointing out discrepancies between official data and those provided in the country notes. One of the delegations suggested that data sources should be properly indicated. It was highlighted that in *Venezuela*, economic and social policies fully guaranteed the rights of all children, including the indigenous population. Commenting on the *Guatemala* country note, one delegation felt that more progress had been made in the area of legislation to combat crimes against youth than was reflected in the document.

89. One delegation looked forward to continued collaboration in the area of potable water in *Honduras* and *Nicaragua*. He expressed concern over weak institutional capacity and ineffective legal systems when working for women and children, and highlighted the need to improve programme evaluation, project management and the efficient use of resources. Another delegation encouraged UNICEF to include a section in the *Nicaragua* country programme outlining partnerships with other donors.

90. Two delegations agreed with the need for a flexible country programme, as proposed in the *Colombia* country note, and felt that the participatory consultation process represented the basic strength of the programme. However, they wanted to see a greater focus on social development, mainly in the consolidation of the peace process. In relation to children in conflict, one delegation requested closer cooperation among United Nations agencies in the country.

91. One delegation requested that UNICEF play an active role in supporting interventions to improve child health in *Jamaica*. While supporting the SWAP approach and other partnerships, the country note failed to reflect the number of young people involved in crimes and committing suicide. Early identification of risk behaviour and issues of exclusion needed to be embraced by the programme.

92. The Regional Director noted that all of the comments made by delegations would be taken into account in the development of the CPRs. He offered to discuss

specific issues with delegations on a bilateral basis. He thanked delegations that had expressed support for specific countries and initiatives, and in particular one delegation from the region for its support to neighbouring countries in the areas of health and ECD. He stated that programming from a rights-based perspective had become increasingly important in the region, and UNICEF had already acquired significant experience, which was reflected in the country notes. He noted that in 2000, UNICEF undertook an evaluation of the impact of programming from the rights perspective, which provided a foundation for most of the programmes presented to the Board. He added that further information on what helped to determine the specific strategies reflected in the country notes was available to Board members.

East Asia and the Pacific

93. The Regional Director for East Asia and the Pacific introduced the country notes for the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Mongolia and Thailand (E/ICEF/2001/P/L.35 and Corr.1, E/ICEF/2001/P/L.36 and E/ICEF/2001/P/L.37 respectively). She briefed Board members on recent regional trends as well as on UNICEF priorities in the region. The preparation of the three country notes had involved a highly consultative process, including Governments, sister United Nations agencies, non-governmental partners and major donors. While the country notes had been prepared against diversified programming environments and offered unique features, UNICEF had tried to develop subregional and shared strategies and approaches. In all three countries, collaborative CCAs had been completed, and UNDAF processes were under way.

94. Several delegations commended the county notes. With regard to the country note for the *Lao People's Democratic Republic*, they welcomed the link with UNDAF and the strategy on community participation, and appreciated the bottom-up approach envisaged. One speaker sought clarification on how participation was to be achieved in schools, and pointed out the low allocation for special protection issues. Several delegations observed the need for an increased emphasis on handicapped children. One delegation praised UNICEF for its contribution to the application of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in the country, and to polio eradication in particular. The same speaker noted the consistency between Government priorities and the preparation-for-life and water and sanitation components of the new programme and hoped for increased overall UNICEF support.

95. In response to a query about the low funding allocation for special protection activities in the country note, the Regional Director said that the new programme involved mainly information, advocacy and technical support, which were more people- than money-intensive. NGOs were also involved, and a large part of the programme budget appeared in the form of other resources to be sought. As for the need for more resources, the Regional Director agreed that the country faced serious challenges, including unexploded ordnance that covered one half of the country, and difficult access to social services. The Government was making a serious effort, as could be seen in the progress achieved and, therefore, it deserved sustained and increased support.

96. Commenting on the programme for *Mongolia*, one delegation recommended that UNICEF should seek to more actively involve the Government in dialogue on

strategies. This would produce better results in obtaining equity, quality of services and poverty alleviation. In terms of the programming exercise for Mongolia, the Regional Director pointed to the fact that the new Government had been installed only in mid-2000, and the strategy meeting was held only in December. However, UNICEF would now engage in a close participatory process with the Government to elaborate and fine-tune detailed strategies.

97. On the *Thailand* country note, one delegation praised the advocacy component of the programme in the areas of drugs, prostitution and child labour in particular. The same delegation expressed its satisfaction with the smooth progression of the CCA/UNDAF process, and hoped that UNICEF would continue its role as catalyst. Another delegation said that despite progress made on the World Summit for Children goals and in the access to basic services for the majority of the population, much remained to be done against child labour, prostitution and HIV/AIDS prevention. The same delegation invited an increased focus on the youth, girls, the application of relevant international conventions, and communication and training. The Regional Director welcomed the recommendation on reinforcing the advocacy and communication components of the Thailand programme, adding that a new youth ambassador was helping to actively engage young people.

South Asia

98. In his introduction of the country notes for Bhutan, Nepal and Sri Lanka (E/ICEF/2001/P/L.38-E/ICEF/2001/P/L.40, respectively), the Regional Director for South Asia highlighted that UNICEF was using the opportunity of the Global Movement for Children to address several flagship themes in all countries in the region. These included: advocating for investment in children; developing innovative partnerships for children; promoting gender equity; achieving a quantum leap in access to quality basic education, especially for girls; advocating the right of children to be heard and to participate in development processes that affect their lives; and addressing growing threats to children, such as HIV/AIDS, violence and conflict.

99. A number of delegations expressed support for the three country notes, commenting positively on their good quality and emphasis on rights, protection and capacity development. They also expressed their satisfaction at the smooth running of the UNDAF process and its relevance to the programme process for all three countries. One speaker expressed his concern for the alarming HIV/AIDS trends in South Asia and recommended a stronger focus on HIV/AIDS, in coordination with UNAIDS, as well as the allocation of more resources to combat HIV/AIDS in the three countries. Another delegation noted that trafficking and its cross-border/ regional dimension would have to be given more attention.

100. Regarding the *Bhutan* country note, one delegation praised the relevance of the strategies adopted and suggested a stronger articulation of the specific goals to be achieved. Another delegation criticized the validity of the data presented, considering them "unreliable". While appreciating the lessons learned, the delegation found them too general. The same delegation also urged a strong focus on disparity reduction and hoped that the capacity-building aspect would be more developed in the CPR. Another delegation considered the programme to be spread in too many directions and recommended concentration on fewer areas. It was also considered that UNICEF had withdrawn from the water sector owing to capacity

limitations. The Regional Director acknowledged the comment, but noted that the programme approach combined a mix of advocacy, communication, analysis and action so that not all programme elements were approached in the same way. One speaker called for further information on the HIV/AIDS situation and on the government strategy to deal with it.

101. On the data used in the Bhutan country note, the Regional Director stated that the quality of data varied from sector to sector and that little disaggregated data was available. Thus, the improvement of databases was an important component of the new programme proposal.

102. Several delegations praised the quality of the programme as reflected in the *Nepal* country note and the appropriateness of its strategies. They noted the excellent inter-agency collaboration aspect and the direction towards the World Summit goals taken within UNDAF in particular. One delegation mentioned its positive view of the role of UNICEF in SWAPs in Nepal. The same delegation asked for more details on the HIV/AIDS programme, and suggested that the subject be discussed with the local UNAIDS office, while another speaker urged basket funding for AIDS. The Regional Director noted that UNICEF currently chaired the country HIV/AIDS theme group, and that, within the UNAIDS umbrella, UNICEF regionally was charged with addressing political advocacy and communications with young people in particular.

103. Positive comments were made on the decentralization strategy and on the way the programme took into account local characteristics and differences in the nature of disparities. One delegation observed that the country note could have been more specific in identifying the needs and goals in the various sectors, especially with regard to maternal mortality reduction.

104. Concerning needs and goals in maternal mortality reduction, the Regional Director cited the women's right to life and health project and the dual focus on the provision of quality emergency obstetric care. These would be combined with rights-based strategies to address women's access to the services and an examination of the impact of the status of women on maternal mortality and morbidity patterns. One delegation suggested that more attention be paid to trafficking. The Regional Director explained the community-based approach to prevention and rehabilitation, also noting the regional advocacy role of UNICEF in relation to the proposed Convention of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation.

105. Commenting on the *Sri Lanka* country note, one delegation expressed its satisfaction at the emphasis on protection issues, the conflict perspective throughout the programme and the importance given to capacity-building at both local and national levels. One delegation commended UNICEF for its transparency vis-à-vis the donor community in Sri Lanka, and for the positive role that the programme for children affected by armed conflict was playing. Another speaker would have liked to have seen more attention paid to advocacy and capacity-building, an analysis of the impact of the UNICEF programme on children affected by the conflict, children in welfare centres and IDPs. The Regional Director explained the division of labour between United Nations agencies and the particular focuses of the UNICEF programme.

106. The same delegation queried UNICEF actions for disabled children. Another delegation praised the strategy of working in both conflict and non-conflict areas

and the importance of the integrated approach to them. One speaker noted the low financial allocation for the children in armed conflict rehabilitation programme. The Regional Director said that the children affected by armed conflict programme was fully funded from other resources, and was, therefore, very dependent on donor support. One delegation would have liked to have seen more thorough description of UNDAF and donor links, as well as an analysis of how UNICEF was helping to ensure an equitable distribution of resources between conflict- and non-conflict-affected children. The Regional Director again explained programme funding sources, and emphasised the excellent working relationships among United Nations agencies in Sri Lanka, including in the CCA/UNDAF process. Finally, one delegation requested a more analytical explanation of the role of UNICEF in education, noting that poor quality teaching and teacher absenteeism were major factors in poor pupil achievement levels.

Central and Eastern Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Baltic States

107. The Regional Director for Central and Eastern Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Baltic States presented the country note for the Republic of Moldova (E/ICEF/2001/P/L.41). He described some of the trends common in the region, including, for example, the rise in the number of HIV/AIDS cases and a significant increase in poverty. The proposed programme of cooperation had been developed by the Government of the Republic of Moldova and UNICEF, in close cooperation with a number of partners, including the World Bank. It took into account the CCA and the initial outline of the UNDAF, and built upon some excellent work done in bringing international conventions to life, in particular the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

108. The country delegation expressed its support for the three cross-cutting strategies as outlined in the country note. The main Government priority was to improve the well-being of children. In order to improve the situation in the country, children had to be protected from the hardship of the transition. The delegation said that in response to those concerns, the Government had taken steps to revise the laws on children's rights. A number of programmes had also been initiated, such as the national programme to improve medical and genetic services, the national nutrition programme and a programme on human rights education for schools. The Government had recently submitted a report to UNICEF on follow-up to the World Summit for Children which contained comprehensive data on Government actions for child survival, protection and development as well as on the future actions and programmes oriented to protect child development. The delegation expressed its gratitude to donor countries for the financial and technical assistance provided for different projects, and hoped that they would be able to provide additional funds.

Middle East and North Africa

109. The Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa presented the country notes for Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Morocco, Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and Yemen (E/ICEF/2001/P/L.42-E/ICEF/2001/P/L.45, E/ICEF/2001/P/L.46 and Corr.1, and E/ICEF/2001/P/L.47-E/ICEF/2001/P/L.49, respectively). He highlighted the organization's readiness to provide assistance to the children and women of Palestine during the recent crisis, as well as its willingness to contribute to the reconstruction and development of South Lebanon

and West Beqaa, provided resources became available. The strategies, which had been selected to assure maximum programme impact within given resources, would promote the realization of child rights, satisfy the most urgent needs and contribute to the key outcomes for children that were part of the new global agenda.

110. Commenting on the *Egypt* country note, one delegation pointed out the importance of completing all the projects under way in Upper Egypt, while also stressing the need for protection, achieving full equality and reducing disparities.

111. A number of delegations stressed the need for additional resources for rebuilding and rehabilitating Southern Lebanon and West Beqaa, and appealed for accelerated efforts. One delegation highlighted the plight of children being killed and maimed by landmines. The Regional Director responded that the concerns raised regarding *Lebanon* were already being addressed.

112. Several delegations commended the country note of *Sudan* for placing emphasis on emergency preparedness, tolerance and peace-building. One delegation noted that the country note addressed humanitarian assistance with a view to long-term development. More clarity of strategies, however, was requested, for example, on how UNICEF intended to increase access to basic education for children in conflict areas and to address the drop in immunization coverage. One delegation stated that the country note needed to demonstrate clearer geographic targeting. Another speaker asked that the role of UNICEF in the programme of cooperation and in Operation Lifeline Sudan be differentiated. He further requested that the opinions of the Government be better reflected. The Regional Director stated that all concerns would be taken into account in the formulation of the CPR.

113. One delegation pointed to *Yemen*'s weak capacity in planning, research, evaluation and social mobilization, and hoped that this would be reflected in the CPR. The same delegation hoped that World Bank-UNICEF-Government collaboration would bring about added financial and technical support to the country. Another delegation highlighted the important role of social communication in *Algeria*, where so many households had televisions.

114. Clarity, focus and targeting were recurrent themes in the comments of several delegations on the country notes for *Egypt*, *Tunisia* and *Yemen*. The Regional Director used the case of the *Syrian Arab Republic* to illustrate how the reduction of UNICEF regular resources highlighted the significance of targeted intervention. In general, the programmes before the Board had made strong efforts towards being more focused. Several delegations emphasized the importance of strengthening civil society participation, for example, in *Morocco*, *Tunisia* and *Yemen*.

115. One delegation commended coverage of the issue of HIV/AIDS in the country notes, highlighting the importance of addressing the pandemic before it evolved into the threat seen in other regions. The delegation suggested that a full analysis of the HIV/AIDS situation be included in the CPRs.

C. UNICEF Maurice Pate Award

116. The Secretary of the Executive Board addressed delegations on the matter of the UNICEF Maurice Pate Award. He said that over the past few years, many delegations had requested that the Award be examined, with a view to reinvigorating the process. Prior to the first regular session, both the outgoing and incoming

Bureaux of the Board endorsed a plan in which a working group would be formed comprising representatives of the new Bureau, the Programme Division and the Division of Communication. An informal dialogue would be held in which all interested delegations could participate, and the working group would then present a recommendation to the Board.

117. One delegation agreed that the award should be reworked. He suggested that UNICEF look at examples of awards given by other United Nations funds and programmes. Another delegation asked what the time-frame was for the working group. The President stated that consultations would be held throughout the year, and the working group would present a proposal to the Board at the first regular session of 2002.

D. Update on the preparatory process for the General Assembly Special Session on Children in 2001: oral report

118. The Executive Director briefed Board members on the major thrusts of the second substantive session of the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session on Children, to be held from 29 January to 2 February. She noted that the Committee would be discussing the preliminary results of the end-decade review of the 1990 goals and actions in favour of children. To spearhead the discussion, UNICEF would make a presentation on global and regional trends, and two panel discussions would be held, one on adolescent development and participation, and the other on the girl child. Comments on the end-decade reviews, as well as the reports received from Member States and United Nations programmes and agencies, would serve as inputs for the report that the Secretary-General would submit to the Committee at its third substantive session in June.

119. A key item for the second substantive session was the general debate on the draft provisional outcome document of the Special Session, "A world fit for children" (A/AC.256/CRP.6), submitted by the Bureau of the Preparatory Committee and prepared with UNICEF support. As agreed at the first substantive session of the Committee, the document was to be concise and action-oriented, and focus on three major areas: ECD; basic education; and social participation of adolescents. It was to outline overarching policy guideline for children rather than reformulate global agreements on specific social sectors.

120. The Executive Director noted that the Committee was expected to take action on two organizational aspects of the Special Session in September, namely, arrangements for NGO participation and the format of the Session. She emphasized that UNICEF strongly supported the participation of NGOs as key partners of Governments and the United Nations system, and encouraged the active participation of children and adolescents in the process through membership in government and NGO delegations.

121. The Executive Director stated further that the success of the Special Session depended on high-level representation of Governments during the preparatory process and at the Special Session itself. Further efforts were required to ensure the assignment of Personal Representatives of heads of State or Government to the Preparatory Committee, and to encourage attendance by heads of State or Government at the September meeting. She reminded delegations that the success of the Special Session also required timely financial support by Member States.

E. Establishment of an operational reserve

122. The Comptroller introduced the report on the "Establishment of an operational reserve" (E/ICEF/2001/AB/L.3), referring to the fact that its presentation at this time was in response to a recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (E/ICEF/1999/AB/L.10). The paper reviewed the advantages and disadvantages related to the establishment of an operating reserve. UNICEF had managed its finances very well for 53 years without an operating reserve. Improvements in the levels of income and in the predictability of resources, as well as the improved availability of data through the new systems, all enhanced the capability of UNICEF to effectively manage its resources within the existing liquidity policy. It was pointed out that any establishment of reserves required the diversion of resources away from programme activities. The Advisory Committee, in its report on the paper (E/ICEF/2001/AB/L.4), essentially agreed with the review and analysis as presented, but indicated that it would like to revert to the matter in the context of its review of the biennial support budget for the period 2002-2003.

123. All of the delegations addressing this agenda item complimented the secretariat on the clarity and conciseness of the report. They were supportive of the recommendation to maintain the current liquidity policy instead of creating an operating reserve at the present time. Many delegations also welcomed the efficient budgetary and financial management approach of UNICEF.

124. One delegation expressed the wish to have consistency between the United Nations agencies on financial matters such as this, and proposed intra-agency consultations as a means of promoting consistency.

125. The Comptroller thanked delegations for their supportive and helpful comments. She reinforced the fact that the establishment of a reserve would divert funds from investments in programmes. She emphasized that UNICEF managed its finances in a conservative manner and took a disciplined approach in all of its programming, budgeting and reporting in order to maximize the benefits that could be derived from the funds entrusted to it. In closing, she stated that UNICEF reviewed its liquidity requirements on an ongoing basis and that if circumstances changed, it would not hesitate to come back to the Board for further discussion and potentially propose an alternate approach. (See annex II, decision 2001/7, for the text of the decision adopted by the Executive Board.)

F. Private Sector Division work plan and proposed budget for 2001

126. The Executive Board had before it the PSD work plan and proposed budget for 2001 (E/ICEF/2001/AB/L.1). The report was introduced by the Director, PSD, who also highlighted the environment surrounding PSD activities in 2000 as well as the key PSD strategies for 2001. These included, among others, its contribution to the Global Movement for Children, Private Sector Fund-raising Task Force recommendations, the PSD long-term strategy development, and a general focus on the corporate sector for both sales and fund-raising.

127. The majority of the delegations which took the floor commended the work of PSD, which generated about one third of total UNICEF income, and supported the work plan and proposed budget. Delegations welcomed the new initiatives such as

partnerships with FIFA (Federation of International Football Associations), the Global Initiative for Fund-raising Techniques and experience exchange. Delegations looked forward to the first results of the above-mentioned initiatives in the near future. One delegation queried whether the Nordic Investment initiative could be replicated given the positive results. The Director responded that this should not be excluded, although on a different scale. Some countries of Central and Eastern Europe, for example, could represent a similar restructuring and investment opportunity in the future.

128. Welcoming the creation of the joint Private Sector Fund-raising Task Force, many delegations recognized the need to review its progress report. The Director and the Executive Director responded that the Executive Board would be informed of the Task Force's progress as part of the presentation of the PSD financial report for 2000.

129. The representative of the Standing Group of National Committees expressed appreciation to the Executive Board for its positive evaluation of the efforts made by the National Committees for UNICEF in the area of sales and fund-raising. Although card and product sales remained the core business of UNICEF, he was pleased to observe in the work plan and budget document the increasing focus on private sector fund-raising. However, he found the 2001 income projections for fund-raising to be somewhat understated. The Director confirmed that the 2001 conservative income projections were prudent under current economic conditions, including with regard to unpredictable exchange rates. The Executive Director thanked National Committees not only for their significant contribution to the UNICEF budget, but also for the valuable intellectual exchange and generation of ideas and initiatives.

130. Many delegations expressed concern about the decline in the PSD net operating income, especially in regular resources, and noted that while private sector revenues were decreasing, the proposed 2001 budget still projected increased expenditures. In that regard, some Board members suggested a change in the resolution requiring a reduction in expenditures proportionate to the decrease in revenues. The Director and Executive Director responded that the draft resolution already contained a requirement to reduce expenditures if proceeds were to fall below the projected level, which actually was the case and resulted in expenditure reductions by PSD in 1999 and 2000. (See annex II, decision 2001/5, for the text of the decision adopted by the Executive Board.)

G. Financial matters

131. The Deputy Executive Director, Internal Administration, Management and Finance introduced the two documents being considered under this agenda item: the "UNICEF financial report and audited financial statements for the biennium ended 31 December 1999 and report of the Board of Auditors" (A/55/5/Add.2); and the "Report to the United Nations Board of Auditors and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions" (E/ICEF/2001/AB/L.2). She mentioned that the Fifth Committee and the General Assembly had already deliberated on the documents. The Deputy Executive Director also indicated that for the sixth biennium, the Board of Auditors had given UNICEF an unqualified opinion on the financial statements.

132. The Deputy Executive Director expressed appreciation to the Board of Auditors, particularly Ghana, for their openness and professionalism during their audits. UNICEF looked forward to continuing to work with the external auditors from the United Kingdom until June 2001 and, thereafter, with the Court of Accounts of France. She also thanked the Advisory Committee for its advice and guidance.

133. The Deputy Executive Director provided highlights from the financial report and statements. In comparison to the results of operation from the biennium ended 31 December 1997, the biennium ended 31 December 1999 showed that total income increased by 13 per cent to $2.083 billion. Regular resources income increased by only 6 per cent, although income from government contributions decreased by 5 per cent. Total expenses in the 1998-1999 biennium were 93 per cent of the total income of the biennium. The liquidity ratio as of 31 December 1999 was 1.42:1 in comparison to the liquidity ration of 1.36:1 on 31 December 1997.

134. Some delegations commended UNICEF for receiving an unqualified opinion from the Board of Auditors for the sixth consecutive biennium, which attested to the high quality of the accounting and management of UNICEF. Delegations, however, expressed concern regarding cash assistance to Governments (CAGs) and noted that the unliquidated balance of CAGs as of 31 December of $159.9 million was $48.2 million higher than the 31 December 1997 CAG balance. A delegation voiced the same concern raised about CAGs by the Advisory Committee and some delegations to the Fifth Committee. A number of speakers requested that the secretariat prepare a report on current practices and on the implications of the amendments to the UNICEF Financial Regulations and Rules for the September 2001 Board session. One delegation requested clarification on the role of the Board of Auditors on the implementation of the audit recommendations.

135. In her response, the Deputy Executive Director noted that CAGs were always a most interesting issue and referred to the good debate that had taken place at the Executive Board session in 1999 when the revision of the UNICEF Financial Regulations and Rules was discussed. She referred to paragraphs 21-27 of the report of the Board of Auditors on the financial statements of UNICEF for the biennium 1998-1999 where the Board of Auditors did not express concern about CAGs. She stated that it was the understanding of UNICEF that the Board of Auditors was satisfied with what UNICEF had done on CAGs. The Deputy Executive Director further noted that the 31 December 1999 balance was only a snapshot as of that date and would be due to a high number of transfers made before the closure of the accounts. UNICEF undertook intensive follow-up on unliquidated CAGs that were nine months and older, and senior UNICEF staff had undertaken these follow-ups personally during their trips to field offices and in meetings with government counterparts. Where the situation of CAGs nine months and older had not improved, CAGs to government counterparts might be suspended.

136. Citing the heavy workload of the secretariat in preparing for the third regular session in 2001, the Deputy Executive Director requested that the report be submitted instead to the Executive Board at its first regular session of 2002. In response to a question raised by one delegation, the Deputy Executive Director also explained that the Board of Auditors had the authority to examine financial, management and programmatic aspects of UNICEF operations, including cooperation between UNICEF and Governments. She also said that UNICEF had

very good cooperation from Governments on the matter of implementation of the recommendations from the Board of Auditors. (See annex II, decision 2001/6, for the text of the decision adopted by the Executive Board.)

H. Pledging event

137. The Executive Director opened the second annual pledging event, which was called for by decision 1999/8 (E/ICEF/1999/7/Rev.1) on the resource mobilization strategy, which stated that at the first regular session each year, Governments in a position to do so were to announce their voluntary contributions to UNICEF regular resources, as well as payment schedules. She outlined the current status of contributions received from Governments, and expressed gratitude for the strong support and confidence UNICEF received, as shown by the overall growth in resources. She expressed deep concern, however, about the trend of declining regular resources. She noted that the erosion of these resources threatened the essence of UNICEF and outlined the crucial role of regular resources for the organization.

138. The Executive Director thanked delegations for the voluntary contributions made to UNICEF regular resources for 2000. She appreciated, in particular, the 56 programme countries for their contributions, which were seen as a reflection of how their Governments supported and valued the work of UNICEF. She paid special tribute to seven donor Governments which continued to give generous contributions to UNICEF. She further thanked donor Governments that had increased their contributions the previous year, in particular Governments that contributed an increase of 7 per cent or more.

139. Thirty-seven delegations — 15 from programme countries and 22 from donor countries — made interventions. Including pledges received prior to the pledging event, the secretariat received 66 pledges: 49 Governments gave firm pledges and 17 gave indicative pledges. Fifteen Governments provided payment schedules, and nine gave tentative future-year pledges.

140. Many delegations shared and endorsed the Executive Director's concern regarding declining regular resources. They stressed the need to find a balance between regular resources and earmarked contributions in order to safeguard the essence of the organization. Several delegations expressed their satisfaction that the pledging event allowed better predictability and burden sharing in the context of a resource mobilization strategy and the MYFF.

141. In closing, the Executive Director thanked all the delegations that pledged during the session, as well as those that made statements of their intention to do so. She looked forward to hearing from delegations unable to pledge in January as soon as their budgetary processes had been completed. Document E/ICEF/2001/CRP.4, which reflected the pledges received prior to and during the session, was distributed. (See annex I for the for an updated matrix.)

I. Other matters

142. The Executive Director made an oral presentation on staff morale. She commended the fine work of UNICEF staff and emphasized that staff members

needed a positive environment in which to work. In recent months and years, however, they were being asked to work in more dangerous, complicated environments, and were often separated from their families. Security was a growing challenge, and there was also a lack of predictability regarding funding of some posts.

143. She said that staff morale was a key priority of the organization and that she had instructed heads of offices to keep the issue high on their agendas. She outlined a number of initiatives under way: at global management meetings, human resources issues were always on the agenda; an Intranet site on staff morale had been established, which encouraged free and open dialogue; the services of ombudspersons were being used to a greater extent; and joint workshops for programme and operations staff were being held. She added that when she and the deputy executive directors travelled to the regions, they examined the staff morale situation. She noted with satisfaction that most regional offices had a human resources management and development team in place.

144. Staff welfare support included paternity leave, adoption leave, emergency family leave and the encouragement of a family-friendly environment. She noted that HIV/AIDS had become more than a policy and programme; it was now a human resources issue as well, with implications for UNICEF staff. She emphasized that although progress was being made in the area of staff morale, this was an ongoing process.

145. Two delegations expressed appreciation for the feedback, and agreed that human resources was a key managerial issue. Staff were the core of success of the organization. One delegation requested periodic reports on staff morale.

J. Closing of the session

146. In her closing remarks, the Executive Director noted that the first regular session of the Board each year was particularly important, in that it allowed in-depth discussion of programming directives in the context of country notes. She thanked delegations for their very important input, adding that she looked forward to seeing them at the second substantive session of the Preparatory Committee for the Special Session, which would be held the following week.

147. She was very gratified with the results of the pledging event and appreciated the willingness of Governments to offer greater predictability of funding. In concluding, she congratulated the President and other members of the Bureau, noting how important it was to have effective, engaged Board officers. She also thanked the interpreters, the conference service officers and the Secretary of the Board.

148. In his closing remarks, the President expressed appreciation to his Vice-Presidents and the Executive Director for their cooperation and active participation, and also thanked the Secretary of the Board. He stated that he had had the occasion to work in many forums at the United Nations, and the UNICEF Executive Board was the most enjoyable.

149. He said that during his year as President, he intended to continue to begin meetings on time. He calculated that by doing so, a total of $13,500 would be saved

over the course of the year. He hoped to see Board members at the second substantive session of the Preparatory Committee the following week.

III. Joint meeting of the Executive Boards of UNICEF and UNDP/UNFPA, with the participation of WFP

Frameworks for Common Country Assessment indicators

Address by Poul Nielson, European Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid: "The United Nations and Europe: active multilateral partners"

150. The first part of the joint meeting was chaired by H.E. Dr. Movses Abelian (Armenia), President of the Executive Board of UNICEF. The Administrator of UNDP, the Executive Director of UNICEF, the Executive Director of UNFPA, the Assistant Executive Director of WFP, and Mr. Poul Nielson, European Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid, were on the podium. The Administrator of UNDP introduced Mr. Nielson.

151. Mr. Nielson underlined the strengthening of relations between the European Commission and the United Nations, noting that there was scope for improvement and for the development of a more effective partnership. Cooperation with the United Nations system needed to be more systematic and programmatic and less ad hoc and project-based, and needed to intensify the mutual engagement in a policy dialogue. The enhanced collaboration would be based on the recognition of the added value and core capabilities of United Nations bodies in relation to the development policy priorities of the European Community.

152. Citing the change in the development policy of the European Commission during the past year, Mr. Nielson described the three major elements that had helped to shape the new approach by the European Community to development policy and development cooperation. First, the European Commission and development ministers of the European Union had, in the Development Councils of May and November 2000, agreed to a European Development Policy. Second, the 15 European Union countries and 77 African, Caribbean and Pacific (APC) countries in the ACP-European Union partnership had set a new milestone in their relationship by establishing the new Cotonou Agreement. Third, the Commission had taken far-reaching decisions on how to reform and improve radically the management of Community external aid. The three decisions were aimed to help the Community to respond to the double challenge of making external aid more effective and to help developing countries to integrate progressively into the world economy.

153. The resultant new development policy of the European Community focused on poverty reduction as the overall objective of its policies and activities. Within that global objective, the Commission would concentrate on six areas of comparative advantage: trade and development; regional integration and cooperation; macro-economic policies linked with poverty reduction strategies, in particular the strengthening of social sectors such as health and education; reliable and sustainable transport; food security and sustainable rural development strategies; and institutional capacity-building, good governance and the rule of law. Cross-cutting

issues such as gender, environment and human rights would be fully integrated into all activities.

154. The Community, as one of the largest donors in the area of development assistance, was trying to make the best use of existing frameworks and processes, such as the PRSPs and UNDAF. In the development of country strategy papers for the future multi-annual planning, the European Union would base its programming on those instruments, where available.

155. The commitments made at the World Summit for Social Development had served as a base for the new policy orientation of the European Commission for development cooperation. Those commitments had been fully incorporated in the ACP-European Union partnership agreement signed at Cotonou on 23 June 2000. The agreement emphasized poverty reduction and the integration of developing countries into the global economy. A first step would be to reinforce the political dimension of relations between ACP countries and the European Union, including human rights, democratic principles, rule of law, good governance, gender equality, attention to corruption and the importance of communication and information. Regional economic partnership agreements would be included in regional free trade areas, allowing ACP countries to integrate gradually into the world economy. Regional cooperation and integration were seen as cornerstones to an effective response to globalization and trade was strongly linked to environmental and labour standard issues. The Cotonou agreement paved the way for increased foreign direct investments, which the European Union intended to stimulate through a new 2.2 billion euro business investment facility. Allocation of funds would be based on evaluation of the individual requirements of each country and their performance.

156. Mr. Nielson also described the reform of the external service of the Commission beginning in 2001. The aim to improve effectiveness was based on three main elements: a new Europe-Aid Cooperation Office to manage European Union external assistance; the establishment of stronger and more articulate internal mechanisms to ensure quality and coherence of European Commission assistance programming; and the thorough screening of existing commitments in an effort to improve the speed and quality of spending. The launch of the first phase of deconcentration and devolution of powers to 23 delegations in 2001 was well advanced and included the provision of human and material resources. All delegations would be included by the end of 2003.

157. One of the goals of the management of external assistance was to strengthen cooperation with selected United Nations development and humanitarian organizations. Changes to legal requirements would provide scope for more flexible cooperation with the United Nations, as would changing the corporate culture in the European Commission with regard to the United Nations. A number of key meetings relating to eradication of poverty would be held in 2001, including the Third Conference on Least Developed Countries and the Meeting on Financing for Development.

158. The development policy of the European Community had entered a new era. Given its role as a major global partner in development cooperation, the Community was ready to bear its share of the responsibility to improve international society. More global governance was required, not less. Closer cooperation between the European Community and the United Nations family would strengthen that effort.

159. In closing, Mr. Nielson expressed regret over the recent decision by one major donor regarding UNFPA, in particular at a time when there were so many abused and marginalized women who needed support from that organization. He emphasized the importance of the work of UNFPA and the International Planned Parenthood Foundation, organizations that contributed greatly to poverty eradication and a decent global community.

Comments by delegations

160. One delegation welcomed the "new era" in development cooperation heralded by the European Commission. Partnership with the United Nations, in particular, represented a very positive step. The main challenge was to intensify and build on coordination and cooperation. The speaker cited strengthened United Nations operational activities, the growing importance of regional activities, and enhanced collaboration between the United Nations and the Bretton Woods institutions as positive developments. A realistic and holistic approach to development was required, one in which emerging ideas could be translated into policy guidance and strategies. Closer relations between the European Commission and United Nations in development and humanitarian activities was an important priority for her delegation, which currently held the Presidency of the European Union. Future dialogues between the Boards and the Commissioner would be welcomed.

161. Another delegation expressed gratitude to the Commissioner for his visit to Japan prior to attending the joint meeting of the Executive Boards. The speaker underlined the importance of ensuring public support for ODA through more effective and efficient programmes. His delegation welcomed the opening of the Europe-Aid Cooperation Office. His country shared many of the objectives described by Mr. Nielson, in particular with the United Nations. At the country level, the PRSPs and sector-wide action plans were key instruments. Aid coordination, the speaker noted, should be a gradual process, without imposing views on developing countries. It was important for recipient countries to select the right form of development assistance depending on the circumstances in their country. In that regard, both programme and project approaches could be considered.

162. Other delegations welcomed the importance the European Union placed on development assistance and the growing cooperation with the United Nations. It was hoped that the Meeting on Financing for Development would help to reverse the decline in resources for development. One delegation underlined the successful experience of regional collaboration in the Latin America and the Caribbean region in poverty eradication. Another speaker raised queries regarding coordination among programming instruments at the country level and about how individual aid programmes of European Union members would be coordinated with the overall European Union aid programme.

163. The Executive Director of UNICEF expressed appreciation for the leadership of Commissioner Nielson in forging a partnership between the European Union and the United Nations. UNICEF was committed to working with the European Union in the ongoing dialogue proposed by the Commissioner. She also noted that UNICEF looked forward to the 10-year review of the World Summit for Children to be held in 2001.

164. The Executive Director of UNFPA thanked the Commissioner for expressing support for UNFPA, which would support the activities he had proposed, particularly in the regional context.

165. The Assistant Executive Director of WFP thanked the Commissioner for his statement and explained that his organization had recognized the important role of the European Union by adding a permanent observer seat for the European Union at its Executive Board.

166. The Administrator of UNDP expressed support for the partnership between the United Nations and the European Union, underlining the importance of the new initiative.

167. Mr. Nielson responded to the comments and queries raised. He stated that the Commission looked forward to accelerating the dialogue with the United Nations. He underlined the importance of cooperation in the area of conflict prevention and in activities aimed at bridging the gap between crisis and development. He emphasized the importance of effectiveness in development cooperation in maintaining public support for ODA. With regard to programming, he stressed the key importance of sector-wide action plans as a way of improving the quality and predictability of development activities. Using PRSP as a framework enabled better donor coordination, through the involvement of the Bretton Woods institutions. He emphasized the need for collective action on feasible programmes with demonstrable results. In response to a query raised, Mr. Nielson stated that the European Union would not provide core contributions to the United Nations funds and programmes, as individual members were already donors. It was hoped that the Meeting on Financing for Development would help to mobilize public support for ODA.

Presentation on progress with the use of Common Country Assessment indicator frameworks

168. The second part of the joint meeting of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP was chaired by Ms. Ulla-Maija Finskas-Aho (Finland), Vice-President of the Executive Board of WFP, who conveyed the greetings of the President of the Board. She informed delegations that the session would look at the progress that was being made in developing and using CCA indicators. She introduced the Chairperson of the ad hoc working group of the UNDG on CCA indicators.

169. The Chairperson of the ad hoc working group said that the development of the CCA indicators was an example of United Nations system cooperation at its best. In addition to the organizations represented on the podium, the Statistics Division of the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), all of the regional commissions and other agencies participated actively in that work. He stressed that the CCA was a country-driven process for reviewing and analysing the national development situation, that flexible guidelines ensured responsiveness to local needs and conditions, and that the CCA promoted partnerships among national and international development partners. He stated that the list of indicators included in the framework contained in the CCA guidelines was suggestive and not prescriptive or exhaustive. The indicators were designed to demonstrate progress towards achieving the major development goals of United Nations conferences, summits and conventions held in the 1990s. The indicator framework also helped to

identify data gaps and areas in which national statistical systems needed to be strengthened.

170. In order to assess progress in the use of CCA indicator frameworks, the working group had sent a questionnaire to those countries that had completed CCAs since the guidelines had been developed and had received responses from 36 out of the 37 countries canvassed. The survey had shown that United Nations country teams, working with national Governments, were using country-specific indicators. Data availability was the key determinant of which indicators were used. Most of the country teams reported close working relations with Governments, particularly national statistical offices and line ministries, with national experts being widely used. The survey found that the role of the national statistical office was central in terms of selecting and validating the indicators. In that regard, most country teams reported that they relied primarily on national data sources and that only in crisis or post-crisis situations did they rely heavily on international sources.

171. The survey had shown that most United Nations country teams had either established databases for the follow-up of international conferences or planned to do so. The ability to keep these databases up-to-date, however, was hampered by resource constraints and lack of expertise. The indicators in CCA frameworks were used as a basis for country assessment and analysis, for identifying key areas for policy and programme development and as a tool for joint advocacy and programming. Many country teams reported CCA linkages with other ongoing policy frameworks and several mentioned linkages with PRSPs. A majority of country teams reported having programmes to strengthen their statistical capacity or planned to do so within UNDAF.

172. The Chairperson indicated that there were several future challenges. The CCA indicator frameworks needed to evolve to respond to new priorities in national plans, conference reviews and the Millennium Declaration. Data collection was costly and only limited resources exist to strengthen statistical systems. Continued international financial assistance and technical expertise were therefore required. The development of new indicators should build on best practices from previous experiences and should take advantage of greater country and regional participation.

Presentation by Nepal country team

173. The Vice-Chairman of the National Planning Commission of the Government of Nepal reported that the United Nations system had been working in Nepal since 1951 and that many tangible results had been achieved in improving the lives of the Nepalese people. The United Nations was a trusted friend and partner of the Government. He noted three projects in which UNDP, UNICEF and WFP were working to complement each other by making best use of the comparative advantage. He took special note of the concrete steps taken to enhance cooperation through the CCA and UNDAF. As Chairperson of the national workshop on the CCA draft, he had been particularly pleased with the rich debate on the development challenges of the country that the formulation of the CCA had generated.

174. The CCA indicator framework had been created over a period of 18 months during which a series of consultations had taken place with various government bodies engaged in data collection and with policy makers and other officials who needed and used that data. They concluded that a balance was needed between what was desirable and what was feasible. He singled out the United Nations inter-agency

theme groups for their instrumental role in finalizing data needs and their sources. The data, comprehensive and up to date, would allow the Government to monitor systematically the realization of goals agreed to at the international conferences. One noteworthy intervention had been the close cooperation between the Government and United Nations organizations to make the upcoming population census more gender sensitive.

175. The United Nations Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative said that the CCA indicator framework in Nepal had helped to assess the overall development situation and to identify the main challenges. It underpinned the analysis of development needs and helped to monitor progress towards the achievement of global targets and the realization of UNDAF objectives. It identified data gaps and the need for capacity-building. It was part of a "Triple A" strategy in which assessment, analysis and action all played into each other. The CCA indicators that were being used had been selected because of their relevance to the Nepal context and the availability and quality of data. The participants in the process, the Government, United Nations organizations and other development partners, met in inter-agency theme groups to decide on the indicators. They had reached consensus on 114 indicators, based on 28 government and 7 international sources, although some gaps remained. To close those gaps, the national information system had to be strengthened in the areas of data collection, data processing and the harmonization of national statistical systems.

176. The UNFPA Representative in Nepal reported that the development of CCA indicators in Nepal had reduced the duplication of efforts by different organizations and had increased team spirit and the sense of purpose among United Nations staff in the country. The CCA document that had been produced had been well received, both in Nepal and beyond. In noting lessons learned, the UNFPA Representative said that the process could have been even more participatory, adding that it had increased the already heavy workloads of the inter-agency theme groups. He also said that it would have been more productive to have used a rights-based approach from the outset.

177. The results of the CCA highlighted the development challenges facing Nepal. The overall challenge was to reduce widespread income poverty: 42 per cent of the population lived below the Government-established poverty line, and the national development plan called for cutting that percentage by half by 2015. There were great disparities in income and the country ranked low on the UNDP human development index. The population growth rate continued to be high (with population doubling every 29 years) and health indicators, such as the maternal mortality rate and the infant and under-five mortality rates, were disquieting. Nepal had the highest child mortality rates in South Asia and women had little access to antenatal care. Primary school enrolment was improving but was still low compared to other countries and there were large discrepancies between the education of girls and boys. Women continued to suffer other disabilities as well.

178. The UNICEF Representative discussed how UNDAF would help the country move from analysis to action. He gave two examples. In the first case, he began with an assessment of girls' education: the net primary enrolment rate of girls was 19 points below that of boys. An analysis of that assessment had shown that current programmes were not closing the gap and that there was a need to increase the percentage of female teachers and to improve the quality of education provided to

girls. UNDAF had now developed a joint programme to reach those goals. In the second example, the assessment showed gaps in labour market data with regard to gender distribution, child labour and the informal sector. As a result, it became apparent that the government's employment policies failed to address some of the country's critical problems. UNDAF had therefore included joint support for the establishment of a labour market information system and a labour force survey.

179. The WFP Representative/Country Director concentrated on joint United Nations actions in Nepal. He pointed out the geographic concentration of United Nations activities in the most deprived parts of the country. United Nations organizations were cooperating in a number of projects in several districts in the food-deficient western part of the country. He discussed the Achham Initiative in a western district, where UNICEF, WHO, UNFPA, WFP, UNDP and UNESCO were all collaborating on projects that encompassed the empowerment of women; child survival, growth and development; control of HIV/AIDS; good governance; income generation and employment opportunities; and improvement of the social and economic status of low caste and oppressed peoples. Several agencies were also cooperating on a joint initiative against the trafficking of women and girls.

180. The Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Nepal said that the fact that Nepal had been chosen for a special presentation to the joint meetings of the Executive Boards was testimony to the mutual confidence and successful partnership that existed between the Government and the United Nations organizations. Since those organizations had traditionally been the country's best and most reliable partners, the Government sought to increase its cooperation with them. The Government would work within any model that promised improved development performance; the Permanent Representative saw the CCA and UNDAF as such mechanisms. He cautioned however that Nepal could not afford the luxury of experimentation that held no reasonable chances of success and that there was very little margin for error. He stressed that cross-donor and cross-sector compatibility were essential but that the development of a multiplicity of donor-specific planning tools would pose great problems to a vulnerable country such as Nepal.

181. In their comments, delegations appreciated the presentation by the United Nations country team in Nepal and the statements of the Vice-Chairman of the National Planning Commission and of the Permanent Representative. Several delegations noted the importance of the CCA and stated that it had to be at the heart of United Nations development efforts. They hoped that the role of CCA would be to focus on the discussion during the triennial policy review of the Economic and Social Council as well as in the substantive discussions on indicators and capacity-building in the Statistical Commission. The presentation, and that of the Chairperson of the UNDG Working Group on CCA Indictors, had shown what the CCA could contribute to capacity-building. It had also shown the centrality of the role played by indicators in helping countries to reach their national development goals and in orienting United Nations assistance.

182. Several delegations stated that they were pleased that the CCAs gave priority to nationally developed indicators. One delegation said that more consideration should be given to the validity of regional indicators as well. It was stated that more had to be done to analyse the validity of the different indicators — one single, global indicator would not work for all countries. CCAs had to be Government-

owned but consultations needed to be made with all members of the United Nations system and, to the extent possible, with civil society organizations, the private sector and bilateral donors as well. Greater coherence was needed among data collection processes and demands in developing countries. It was hoped that joint situational analysis would help to reduce the number of analyses that donors and the Government would have to do.

183. One delegation stressed how vital it was to establish clearly that CCAs and UNDAFs needed to correspond with the objectives of the countries concerned and that Governments needed to play a leading role in their development. It was pointed out that the indicators used to monitor the progress of conference goals needed to be reviewed for their technical validity by the United Nations Statistical Commission, an intergovernmental body. For example, there were no internationally agreed goals and no way to monitor the application of good governance. The delegation stated that all indicators needed to conform to the principles of the Charter of the United Nations. It was also pointed out that agreements made at global conferences applied to all countries, not just to developing countries.

184. One delegation reported on the evaluations of its Government regarding the implementation of CCAs and UNDAFs in two countries. It reported that progress had been made in building teamwork and believed that greater collaboration in developing the CCA meant better development assistance programmes. It must be remembered that the CCA was a process and would continue to evolve and develop. Another delegation pointed out that it was ever more difficult to convince taxpayers of the value of ODA. The CCA and UNDAF mechanisms had roles to play in showing the public that donor funding was not being wasted. The key was to make sure that the processes did not become overly bureaucratic and that they remained flexible in meeting the needs of different developing countries. The same delegation called for more coordination with the work being done by bilateral donors.

185. In his response, the Vice-Chairman said that capacity-building was absolutely central to the concepts of the CCA and UNDAF. In his country, the process had worked very well, with the Government having been involved from the very first discussion on the development of CCA indicators. That was absolutely necessary if the Government was to have a sense of ownership. The process, however, had revealed the extent to which it was necessary to strengthen the national information infrastructure. United Nations organizations, in that regard, were helping to enhance the ability of the Central Bureau of Statistics to generate and disseminate data.

186. The Resident Representative said that bilateral donors were involved in the theme groups and were part of the consultation process. The challenges ahead included the shortage of data and the need to strengthen the capacity of national institutions to meet that need. The Chairperson of the working group said that there had been great progress in implementing CCAs, but the process was still in its infancy. It was necessary to keep reviewing and fine-tuning, especially to ensure government involvement and ownership. Further capacity-building was necessary, especially with regard to gender-related data, which were often only rudimentary. That was one area in which United Nations organizations were particularly involved. He acknowledged that there was a lack of good governance indicators. He said that it was true that the CCA was a tool for use in developing countries. The monitoring bodies of international treaty, however, were involved in assessing civil and political rights in both developed and developing countries.

Discussion with executive heads of funds and programmes

187. The third part of the joint meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr. Gert Rosenthal (Guatemala), President of the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA. He welcomed to the podium the Executive Director of UNICEF, the Executive Director of UNFPA, the Administrator of UNDP and the Assistant Executive Director of WFP.

188. The President of the Board suggested that delegations move their discussion from the country level to a more corporate, general level. One delegation asked what the next step would be in integrating the CCA/UNDAF process into programme procedures. He further queried the role of a rights-based approach. The UNDP Administrator highlighted the goals adopted at the United Nations Millennium Summit, which, he said, brought new energy to the UNDAF process and committed all Governments to global and national alliances. This would allow country teams to align themselves behind the goals of the Summit, engendering more effective cooperation among all partners, thus facilitating programming. The Administrator emphasized that the implementation of a rights-based approach was not the imposition of an outside agenda, but rather an opportunity to mobilize partners at the country level to achieve progress in a way everyone could support. The Executive Director of UNFPA noted that the rights-based approach gave Governments the tools to fulfil their treaty obligations.

189. The Executive Director of UNICEF stated that a number of countries — for example, Cambodia, Colombia and Mozambique — were adopting a rights-based approach. She stressed that the CCA/UNDAF processes should be led by the Government, with participation of all partners, including NGOs. She noted that great progress had been made towards government ownership of the process and that the CCA and UNDAF were being linked with the PRSP and the CDF. She reflected on how, in the early joint meetings, the Executive Boards had considered what the CCA/UNDAF could be, and at this meeting, Board members were already, after a relatively short period, discussing what had been achieved. To ensure that the process was not a burden, both the Executive Director of UNICEF and the Executive Director of UNFPA stated that situation analyses at the agency level could no longer be required and had already been replaced by the CCA/UNDAF in certain cases.

190. A number of delegations thanked the Nepal country team for their fine presentation and noted that there was both merit and substance in United Nations cooperation in that country. One delegation asked how the lessons of a successful CCA/UNDAF process, as demonstrated in Nepal, could be used by other country teams and what kind of leadership could be exercised from the central level. Another delegation asked what could be done to support wider development and dissemination of information and how the Bretton Woods institutions could be more involved with the work of the United Nations system. One delegation requested information on the link between data used in national human development reports and those of the CCA.

191. The Administrator of UNDP stated that major efforts were under way to diffuse good practices through joint training and that in cases where it was determined that the UNDAF process was lagging, missions were sent by the UNDG to evaluate the situation and to support country teams with their exercises. In the area of information dissemination, he brought to the attention of Board members the new Internet sites: RC Net (the United Nations Resident Coordinator Network) and DevLink (communications to support United Nations country teams). He stated

further that national human development reports drew heavily on CCAs. He also noted that United Nations organizations were cooperating with the Bretton Woods institutions through their involvement in CDFs and PRSPs. He emphasized that ultimately what was needed was strong country ownership.

192. One delegation noted that national data collection in developing countries was generally weak and stressed the need for capacity-building. Another stated that CCA indicators should be varied and flexible, depending on the country situation. Another delegation asked for clarification on the role of regional commissions. The Executive Director of UNICEF said that regional commissions had been briefed and there was improved and growing interaction. The Executive Director of UNFPA stated that her organization had supported regional commissions in data collection, adding that there was already a great deal of cooperation in this area.

193. The Assistant Executive Director of WFP outlined periods in history when the United Nations system dramatically changed course. The CCA/UNDAF process was a logical and sensible tool to understand preceding movements, including the international conferences of the 1990s. He said that there was currently a will to cooperate and many effective country teams. He noted also, however, that each agency had an important, separate mandate.

194. The President of the Board summarized by stating that there had been significant progress in the area of indicator frameworks. He highlighted the importance of government ownership and noted that frameworks needed to be adapted to local needs.

Statement by Executive Director of UNICEF on staff security

195. The Executive Director of UNICEF addressed the meeting, on behalf of the UNDG, on concerns about staff security. She stated that the safety of United Nations staff was a matter of greatest importance for the entire system. In recent years, risks had grown sharply, in direct proportion to the spread of armed conflict and instability. She said that additional resources were urgently needed to bring about significant improvements in staff security in the field. Only Governments could provide the political will and additional resources needed and only Governments could institute measures to end the culture of impunity, in which those who perpetrate crimes against United Nations staff go free.

196. She noted that the Secretary-General had drawn up a series of proposals designed to establish minimum security arrangements and that he had requested that an additional $5 million be placed in an existing trust fund. She noted that contributions to the fund had lagged and therefore appealed to members of the Executive Boards to make a firm commitment to the fund in order to protect United Nations staff.

197. In closing the meeting, the President of the Board thanked the distinguished members of the panel, executive heads of agencies and colleagues from the Executive Boards. He noted that the meeting brought added value to the organizations concerned, without detracting from their respective responsibilities. He stated that, as requested by the Economic and Social Council, the report of the joint meeting would be transmitted to the Council by the three bureaux of the Boards.

Annex I

GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO REGULAR RESOURCES FOR 1999 TO 2001 AND INDICATIVE PLEDGES FOR 2002 AND 2003

Pledged and/or paid as at 28 March 2001

(Expressed in thousands of currency pledged and in United States dollars equivalents)

(This matrix shows firm pledges and indicative pledges from member States. A number of countries -unable to make pledges at this time- indicated expectations that their contributions would be equal to or exceed current levels of support.)

Country	1999 Actual		2000 Actual (a)		2001 Pledged		2002 Indication		2003 Indication	
	Local currency	US$	Local currency	US$	Local currency	US$	Local currency	US$	Local currency	US$
Afghanistan	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Albania	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Algeria	20.0	20.0	25.0	25.0 (m)	20.0	20.0 (r)	20.0	20.0 (i,r)	0.0	0.0
Andorra	12.6	12.6	13.3	13.3 (m)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Angola	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Antigua and Barbuda	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Argentina	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Armenia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Australia	4,590.0	2,809.1	4,672.0	3,033.8 (h)	4,600.0	2,866.7 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Austria	20,000.0	1,566.0 (m)	15,000.0	1,011.4 (m)	15,000.0	1,014.3 (f,s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Azerbaijan	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bahamas	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0 (n,m)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bahrain	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bangladesh	32.0	32.0	32.0	32.0 (g)	34.5	34.5 (r)	34.5	34.5 (s,o)	0.0	0.0
Barbados	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0 (b)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Belarus	0.0	0.0	5.0	5.0 (m)	5.0	5.0 (r)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Belgium	80,000.0	1,996.6	127,000.0	2,776.5 (n,q)	90,000.0	2,076.3 (s)	100,000.0	2,306.6 (s,o)	100,000.0	2,306.6 (s,o)
Belize	50.0	50.5 (m)	37.8	37.8 (m)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Benin	4.0	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bhutan	0.0	0.0	21.0	21.0 (e,m)	12.1	12.1 (r)	12.1	12.1 (i,r)	0.0	0.0
Bolivia	70.0	70.0	10.0	10.0 (h)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Botswana	0.0	0.0	26.0	5.7 (n,m)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Brazil	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
British Virgin Islands	38.4	38.4	0.0	0.0	1.5	1.5 (e,m)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Brunei Darussalam	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bulgaria	250.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Burkina Faso	0.1	0.1	7.2	7.2 (m)	1.4	1.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Burundi	0.0	0.0	1,000.0	1.3 (m)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cambodia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

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	Local currency	US$	Local currency	US$	Local currency	US$	Local currency	US$	Local currency	US$
Cameroon	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Canada	13,500.0	8,940.4	13,500.0	9,081.1 (m)	13,500.0	8,940.4 (i,j)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cape Verde	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Central African Republic	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chad	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Chile	70.0	70.0 (b)	70.0	70.0 (b,g)	70.0	70.0 (r)	70.0	70.0 (i,r)	0.0	0.0
China	1,100.0	1,100.0	1,137.1	1,137.1 (b,g,h)	1,150.0	1,150.0 (b,r)	1,150.0	1,150.0 (i,r)	0.0	0.0
Colombia	450.0	450.0	450.0	450.0 (g,h)	450.0	450.0 (r)	450.0	450.0 (i,r)	0.0	0.0
Comoros	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Congo	0.0	0.0	0 0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Costa Rica	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cote d'Ivoire	5.0	5.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Croatia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cuba	0.0	0.0	50.0	50.0 (b,e,h)	25.0	25.0 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Cyprus	0.0	0.0	1.3	1.3 (g,q)	1.5	1.5 (r)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Czech Republic	5,000.0	148.4	5,000.0	126.2 (g)	5,000.0	132.6 (f,r)	5,000.0	132.6 (i,r)	0.0	0.0
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0 (b)	65.0	30.4 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Democratic Republic of the Congo	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Denmark	190,000.0	26,223.0	190,000.0	22,861.9 (h)	190,000.0	23,660.7 (s)	190,000.0	23,661.3 (i,s)	190,000.0	23,661.3 (i,s)
Djibouti	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dominica	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Dominican Republic	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ecuador	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	22.3	22.3 (m)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Egypt	-0.6	-0.6	130.0	34.7 (g)	130.0	34.8 (r)	130.0	34.8 (i,r)	0.0	0.0
El Salvador	0.0	0.0	26.0	26.0 (e,m)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Equatorial Guinea	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Eritrea	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Estonia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ethiopia	49.3	49.3	36.9	36.9 (m)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Fiji	4.8	2.8	5.1	2.3 (h)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

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Finland	64,000.0	11,271.7	70,000.0	11,158.4 (m,q)	70,000.0	10,954.8 (f,i)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
France	49,000.0	7,704.0 (c)	48,000.0	6,782.6 (m)	49,200.0	6,979.1 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Gabon	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Gambia	0.0	0.0	4.7	4.7 (m)	5.0	5.0 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Georgia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.0 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Germany	10,700.0	5,921.1	8,500.0	4,206.4 (h)	8,500.0	4,043.9 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ghana	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0 (g)	10.0	10.0 (s)	10.0	10.0 (s,o)	10.0	10.0 (s,o)
Greece	230.0	230.0 (f)	230.0	230.0 (h)	265.0	265.0 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Grenada	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Guatemala	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Guinea	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Guinea-Bissau	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Guyana	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Haiti	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Holy See	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Honduras	22.2	22.2	24.9	24.9 (n)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Hungary	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Iceland	8,868.6	131.8	9,487.2	109.0 (h,l)	9,500.0	112.0 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
India	31,000.0	718.3	43,750.0	959.7 (g,q)	38,700.0	833.7 (f,r)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Indonesia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	0.0	0.0	100.0	100.0 (e)	53.5	53.5 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Iraq	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ireland	1,475.5	1,989.3 (l)	2,000.0	2,347.1 (n,m)	3,000.0	3,544.4 (s)	4,350.0	5,139.4	6,300.0	7,443.3
Israel	55.0	55.0	60.0	60.0 (m)	60.0	60.0 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Italy	14,000,000.0	7,563.5	20,000,000.0	9,524.2 (n,q)	22,000,000.0	10,572.3 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Jamaica	0.0	0.0	60.0	60.0 (b,g)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Japan	25,215.0	25,296.9	25,596.0	25,596.0 (h)	25,600.0	25,600.0 (f,i)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Jordan	0.0	0.0	20.0	26.2 (e)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Kazakhstan	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

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	Local currency	US$	Local currency	US$	Local currency	US$	Local currency	US$	Local currency	US$
Kenya	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Kiribati	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Kuwait	200.0	200.0 (l)	200.0	200.0 (g)	200.0	200.0 (r)	200.0	200.0 (i,r)	0.0	0.0
Kyrgyzstan	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lao People's Democratic Republic	5.0	5.0	5.0	5.0 (g)	5.4	5.4 (r)	5.0	5.0 (i,r)	0.0	0.0
Latvia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lebanon	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lesotho	23.6	4.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Liberia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Liechtenstein	7.0	5.0	7.0	4.3 (g)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Lithuania	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Luxembourg	16,000.0	426.2	16,000.0	417.8 (n)	20,000.0	461.3 (f,s)	20,000.0	461.3 (i,s)	20,000.0	461.3 (i,s)
Madagascar	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.0	5.0 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Malawi	60.0	1.3	60.0	0.8 (g,l)	120.0	1.5 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Malaysia	84.0	84.0	84.0	84.0 (g,f)	84.0	84.0 (r)	84.0	84.0 (i,r)	0.0	0.0
Maldives	88.6	7.5	7.6	7.6 (g)	7.5	7.5 (r)	7.5	7.5 (i,r)	0.0	0.0
Mali	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Malta	0.0	0.0	3.3	3.3 (m)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Marshall Islands	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mauritania	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mauritius	0.0	0.0	360.0	14.3 (e)	9.0	9.0 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mexico	200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0 (b,g)	200.0	200.0 (i,r)	200.0	200.0 (i,r)	0.0	0.0
Micronesia (Federated States of)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Monaco	96.3	14.1	14.0	14.0 (g,k)	16.0	16.0 (f,r)	16.0	16.0 (i,r)	0.0	0.0
Mongolia	10.0	10.0	10.0	10.0 (g,h)	11.0	11.0 (r)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Morocco	0.0	0.0	1,506.0	146.7 (b)	0.0	0.0 (b)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Mozambique	21.0	21.0	3.0	3.0 (m)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Myanmar	0.0	0.0	651.0	1.9 (b,e)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Namibia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO REGULAR RESOURCES FOR 1999 TO 2001 AND INDICATIVE PLEDGES FOR 2002 AND 2003

Pledged and/or paid as at 28 March 2001

(Expressed in thousands of currency pledged and in United States dollars equivalents)

(This matrix shows firm pledges and indicative pledges from member States. A number of countries -unable to make pledges at this time- indicated expectations that their contributions would be equal to or exceed current levels of support.

Country	1999 Actual		2000 Actual (a)		2001 Pledged		2002 Indication		2003 Indication	
	Local currency	US$	Local currency	US$	Local currency	US$	Local currency	US$	Local currency	US$
Nauru	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	3.0 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Nepal	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Netherlands	52,000.0	26,316.3	55,500.0	22,753.6 (h,q)	59,000.0	24,912.1 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
New Zealand	1,500.0	789.9	1,900.0	926.1 (m,n,q)	2,200.0	973.5 (s)	2,200.0	973.5 (i,s)	2,200.0	973.5 (i,s)
Nicaragua	0.0	0.0	7.0	7.0 (n)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Niger	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Nigeria	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Norway	280,000.0	36,021.0	280,000.0	32,676.0 (h)	310,000.0	34,909.9 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Oman	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0 (g,i)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Pakistan	2,750.0	60.7 (b)	50.8	50.8 (b,k)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Palau	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Panama	33.6	33.6 (e)	22.7	22.7 (n)	8.3	8.3 (m)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Papua New Guinea	0.0	0.0	5.0	5.0 (h)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Paraguay	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Peru	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.0	10.0 (r)	10.0	10.0 (i,r)	0.0	0.0
Philippines	46.1	46.1 (b)	50.5	50.5 (b,h,f)	54.1	54.1 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Poland	155.5	46.0	208.0	46.0 (g,f)	56.0	56.0 (f,r)	56.0	56.0 (i,r)	0.0	0.0
Portugal	200.0	200.0	200.0	200.0 (h,i)	200.0	200.0 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Qatar	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Republic of Korea	1,200.0	1,200.0	1,300.0	1,300.0 (m,n)	1,300.0	1,300.0 (f,i,r)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Republic of Moldova	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Romania	85,276.4	4.7	210,000.0	9.9 (g,h)	300,000.0	11.7 (i,s)	320,000.0	12.5 (i,s)	350,000.0	13.7 (i,s)
Russian Federation	500.0	500.0	500.0	500.0 (f,g,h)	500.0	500.0 (f,r)	500.0	500.0 (i,r)	500.0	500.0 (i,r)
Rwanda	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Saint Kitts and Nevis	2.7	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Saint Lucia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0.0	0.0	2.2	2.2 (e)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Samoa	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
San Marino	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sao Tome and Principe	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO REGULAR RESOURCES FOR 1999 TO 2001 AND INDICATIVE PLEDGES FOR 2002 AND 2003

Pledged and/or paid as at 28 March 2001

(Expressed in thousands of currency pledged and in United States dollars equivalents)

(This matrix shows firm pledges and indicative pledges from member States. A number of countries -unable to make pledges at this time- indicated expectations that their contributions would be equal to or exceed current levels of support.)

Country	1999 Actual		2000 Actual (a)		2001 Pledged		2002 Indication		2003 Indication	
	Local currency	US$	Local currency	US$	Local currency	US$	Local currency	US$	Local currency	US$
Saudi Arabia	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0	1,000.0 (g)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Senegal	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Seychelles	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sierra Leone	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Singapore	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0 (g)	50.0	50.0 (r)	50.0	50.0 (i,r)	0.0	0.0
Slovakia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Slovenia	347.0	1.9	3.7	3.7 (h)	10.0	10.0 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Solomon Islands	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Somalia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
South Africa	202.7	33.6	200.0	31.6 (h)	200.0	26.3 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Spain	275,000.0	1,719.6 (d)	295,000.0	1,486.6 (n)	295,000.0	1,649.7 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sri Lanka	16.6	16.6	16.5	16.5 (b)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sudan	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Suriname	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Swaziland	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Sweden	266,000.0	32,932.6	290,000.0	31,186.9 (h,q)	297,000.0	31,098.9 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Switzerland	17,000.0	11,190.7	17,000.0	10,303.0 (h)	17,000.0	10,365.9 (i,s)	17,000.0	10,365.9 (i,s)	17,000.0	10,365.9 (i,s)
Syrian Arab Republic	0.0	0.0	862.0	18.5	5.1	5.1 (r)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Tajikistan	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Thailand	2,080.6	210.6 (b, k)	104.9	104.9 (b,g,k)	0.0	0.0 (j)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	0.0	0.0	5.0	5.0 (m)	2.0	2.0 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Togo	0.0	0.0	3.5	3.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Tonga	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Trinidad and Tobago	1.6	1.6	1.6	1.6 (m,n)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Tunisia	40.6	34.8	37.0	34.8 (g,h)	37.0	26.3 (r)	37.0	26.3 (i,r)	37.0	26.3 (i,r)
Turkey	120.0	120.0	120.0	120.0 (g,h)	120.0	120.0 (r)	120.0	120.0 (i,r)	0.0	0.0
Turkmenistan	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Tuvalu	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Uganda	0.0	0.0	2.0	2.0 (h)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Ukraine	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTIONS TO REGULAR RESOURCES FOR 1999 TO 2001 AND INDICATIVE PLEDGES FOR 2002 AND 2003

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(This matrix shows firm pledges and indicative pledges from member States. A number of countries -unable to make pledges at this time- indicated expectations that their contributions would be equal to or exceed current levels of support.)

Country	1999 Actual		2000 Actual (a)		2001 Pledged		2002 Indication		2003 Indication	
	Local currency	US$	Local currency	US$	Local currency	US$	Local currency	US$	Local currency	US$
United Arab Emirates	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0 (g)	100.0	100.0 (r)	100.0	100.0 (i,r)	0.0	0.0
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	13,000.0	21,016.5	17,000.0	26,666.6 (h,q)	17,000.0	25,000.0 (s)	17,000.0	25,000.0 (o,s)	17,000.0	25,000.0 (o,s)
United Republic of Tanzania	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
United States of America	105,000.0	105,000.0	109,582.0	109,582.0 (h)	110,000.0	110,000.0 (s)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Uruguay	30.0	30.0 (e)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Uzbekistan	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Venustu	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Venezuela	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Viet Nam	0.0	0.0	13.7	13.7 (g)	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Yemen	16.7	16.7	18.4	18.4 (g,h)	16.7	16.7 (r)	16.7	16.7 (i,r)	0.0	0.0
Yugoslavia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Zambia	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Zimbabwe	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS		343,207.7		342,583.4		345,794.4		71,225.9		70,761.8
Contributions towards local costs		110.3		323.5		63.0				
Adjustments to prior years		1,213.5		(27.7)						
TOTAL GOVERNMENTS *		344,531.5		342,879.2		345,857.4		71,225.9		70,761.8

LEGEND:

(a) Amounts reported are provisional, change may occur.
(b) Amount reported excludes contribution towards local costs.
(c) Additional 1998 contribution (FrF 1 million equivalent to US$ 177,870), recorded in 1999 as 1999 income.
(d) Additional Esp16 million pledged for 1999 received on 6 January 2000.
(e) Includes funds received for prior years' contributions.
(f) Subject to parliamentary approval.
(g) Pledge made during 1999 United Nations Pledging Conference.
(h) Pledge made subsequent to 1999 United Nations Pledging Conference and/or confirmed during first regular UNICEF Executive Board session of 2000.
(i) Tentative pledge or formal pledge not received.
(j) To be announced during fiscal year.
(k) Includes contributions made and/or paid in both currencies.
(l) Amount in local currency adjusted upon application of United Nations exchange rate when payment received.
(m) No amount formally pledged. Recording of cash received in installments or as a lump sum.
(n) Pledge received after Executive Board session in 2000.
(o) Firm pledge.
(p) Amount received in 1999 for 2000.
(q) Additional pledge made/received to initial commitment.
(r) Pledge made during the United Nations Pledging Conference, November 2000.
(s) Pledge made for the UNICEF Pledging Event, January 2001 Executive Board session.
* This total figure does not include contributions from intergovernmental agencies of $405,100 in 1999 and $271,200 in 2000.

Annex II

Decisions adopted by the Executive Board

2001/1
Election of the officers of the Executive Board for 2001

The Executive Board

Decides to elect the following officers of the Executive Board for 2001:

President: H.E. Dr. Movses Abelian (Armenia)

Vice-Presidents: H.E. Mr. Andrés Franco (Colombia)

Ms. Jacqueline de Lacy (Australia)

Mr. Paul Goa Zoumanigui (Guinea)

H.E. Mr. Alounkèo Kittikhoun
(Lao People's Democratic Republic)

First regular session
22 January 2001

2001/2
Election of Executive Board representatives to the joint committees for the 2001-2002 biennium

The Executive Board

1. *Decides* to elect the following member and alternate to the WHO/UNICEF/UNFPA Coordinating Committee on Health for the 2001-2002 biennium (1 January 2001-31 December 2002):

From the Asian group of States, H.E. Mr. Mohamed Al-Sindi as member and Mr. Walid Ethary as alternate (Yemen);

2. *Decides* to elect the following member to the UNESCO/UNICEF Joint Committee on Education for the 2001-2002 biennium (1 January 2001-31 December 2002):

From the Western European and Others group of States, Mr. Kaviraj Appadu (Sweden) as member;

3. *Agrees* that the candidates to be proposed by the regional groups that have not yet submitted nominations to the joint committees will be considered elected upon receipt by the secretariat of a letter from the Chairman of the respective regional group confirming the nominations.

First regular session
22 January 2001

2001/3
Annual report to the Economic and Social Council

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the "Report of the Executive Director: Annual report to the Economic and Social Council" (E/ICEF/2001/4 (Part I));

2. *Requests* the secretariat to transmit it, along with a summary of the comments made during the discussion, to the Economic and Social Council for consideration at its substantive session of 2001.

First regular session
22 January 2001

2001/4
Activities of the Joint Inspection Unit

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the "Report of the Executive Director: Annual report to the Economic and Social Council" (E/ICEF/2001/4 (Part I));

2. *Expresses its appreciation* to the Joint Inspection Unit (JIU) for its reports dealing with issues of relevance to the management and operations of UNICEF;

3. *Takes note* of the conclusions and recommendations contained within these reports and of the comments of the Executive Director thereon;

4. *Requests* the Executive Director to submit reports of the JIU to the Executive Board at its first regular session, along with a brief summary of these reports and, where appropriate, recommendations for action by the Board, as part of the agenda item dealing with part I of the report of the Executive Director;

5. *Also requests* the Executive Director to inform the Executive Board of measures taken on the implementation of recommendations of the JIU.

First regular session
22 January 2001

2001/5
Private Sector Division work plan and proposed budget for 2001

A
Private Sector Division budgeted expenditures for the 2001 season

The Executive Board

1. *Approves* for the fiscal year 1 January to 31 December 2001 budgeted expenditures of $87.7 million as detailed below and summarized in column II of table 7 of document E/ICEF/2001/AB/L.1:

	(In millions of United States dollars)
Commissions — field offices	2.0
Cost of goods delivered	32.0
Marketing expenditures	20.2
Support Services	18.6
Market Development Programme (MDP)	3.4
Fund-raising Development Programme (FDP)	7.0
Central and Eastern European National Committees Development Programme	0.4
Nordic Investment Programme	4.1
Total expenditures, consolidated*	**87.7**

* For details, see table 2.

2. *Authorizes* the Executive Director:

(a) To incur expenditures, as summarized in column II of table 7 of document E/ICEF/2001/AB/L.1, and to increase expenditures up to the level indicated in column III of the same table should the apparent proceeds from card and product sales and/or private sector fund-raising increase to the levels indicated in column III and, accordingly, to reduce expenditures below the level indicated in column II, to the maximum extent possible, should the net proceeds decrease;

(b) To redeploy resources between the various budget lines (as detailed in paragraph 1 above) up to a maximum of 10 per cent of the amounts approved;

(c) To spend an additional amount between Executive Board sessions, when necessary, up to the amount caused by currency fluctuations, to implement the 2001 approved work plan.

B

Budgeted income for the 2001 season

The Executive Board

Notes that for the period 1 January to 31 December 2001, Private Sector Division (PSD) net proceeds are budgeted at $272.8 million (regular resources) as shown in column II of table 7 of document E/ICEF/2001/AB/L.1.

C

Policy issues

The Executive Board

1. *Approves* the changes in posts with a net decrease of four posts, as indicated in annexes I and III to document E/ICEF/2001/AB/L.1;

2. *Renews* MDP with $3.4 million established for 2001;

3. *Renews* FDP with $7.0 million established for 2001;

4. *Renews* the Central and Eastern National Committees Development Programme, which includes nine countries, with a budget of $0.4 million established for 2001;

5. *Renews* the Nordic Investment Programme, which includes four countries, with a budget of $4.1 million for 2001;

6. *Authorizes* the Executive Director to incur expenditures in the 2001 fiscal period related to the cost of goods delivered (production/purchase of raw materials, cards and other products) for the 2002 fiscal year up to $32.5 million as indicated in the PSD medium-term plan (see table 6 of document E/ICEF/2001/AB/L.1).

D
Medium-term plan

The Executive Board

Approves the PSD medium-term plan as reflected in table 6 of document E/ICEF/2001/AB/L.1.

First regular session
24 January 2001

2001/6
Financial matters

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the "UNICEF financial report and audited financial statements for the biennium ended 31 December 1999 and report of the Board of Auditors" (A/55/5/Add.2) and the "Report to the United Nations Board of Auditors and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions" (E/ICEF/2001/AB/L.2);

2. *Decides* to revert to the issue of cash assistance to Governments during the first regular session of 2002 on the basis of a report by UNICEF on its current practice and financial regulations and rules.

First regular session
24 January 2001

2001/7
Consideration on the establishment of an operational reserve

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the report of UNICEF on the "Establishment of an operational reserve" (E/ICEF/2001/AB/L.3) that was prepared in response to the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ) that the Executive Board should review the advantages and disadvantages of establishing an operational reserve for both regular and other resources (E/ICEF/1999/AB/L.10, para. 9);

2. *Takes note* also of the report of ACABQ (E/ICEF/2001/AB/L.4);

3. *Further takes note* of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors on the UNICEF accounts for the biennium 1998-1999, as well as UNICEF's progress report on specific steps taken to implement these recommendations;

4. *Decides* that UNICEF should continue its current financial management practice based on management of its short-term liquidity requirement on a cash-flow basis and should not establish a funded operating reserve;

5. *Further decides* that it will maintain the issue of establishing an operational reserve under review and will consider it further at its first regular session in 2003 taking into account the report of ACABQ on the biennial support budget of UNICEF for the period 2002-2003 and the report of the United Nations Board of Auditors for the biennium 2000-2001.

First regular session
24 January 2001